



The Future Is Here

“The many uses of Future Floor Finish”

Future is a water-soluble coating for linoleum flooring. It is a clear gloss acrylic liquid, not a wax. Future is maybe the most useful non modeling material. Future fills in microscopic surface scratches which makes the plastic look clearer.

Thinning Future: Future can be airbrushed or brushed on full strength, but if you want a longer leveling time and thinner coats, Future can be thinned. You can thin it with a little water (I like distilled), 90 percent rubbing alcohol, Polly Scale Airbrush Thinner, or even Windex.

Cleaning and Stripping: Future can be cleaned from brushes, airbrushes, and surfaces using Windex, or a mixture of ammonia and water, or plain alcohol. You can use these same items to strip Future off if you need to. If you get it on you it can be taken off with soap and water.

Gloss Coat: Future can be airbrushed straight from the bottle. It has quick drying and self leveling properties.

Allow your paint (especially enamel) to cure for 48 hours before coating it with Future. Airbrush two or three light coats and wait about 5 minutes between coats. Sometimes strong decal solvents will cloud uncured Future, usually another coat over the area will clear it up.

The Future gloss coat is also a great surface for applying a thin wash made from oil paints, enamels or acrylics. The wash will flow better running over the glossy surface and when the wash is dry its easy to remove the excess.

Future can also be used for high gloss aircraft paint schemes.

Decaling: Future can be used as an under coat for decals and as an over coat to produce a glassy smooth finish. Some modelers use Future as a setting solution. A thin puddle underneath the decal and another over it will merge the markings seamlessly with the underlying Future coat. Mop up excess Future with a cotton swab before it begins to dry. The down side to this method is that the Future dries pretty quick so adjusting the decal on the model may be tricky if you wait too long. The up side is this method pretty much ensures no silvering.

If you choose to apply Future and let it cure before applying your markings to it you should allow 48 hours before decaling after applying Future. Although dry to the touch in less than one hour, uncured future can reliquify if moistened by water or decal setting solutions. After decaling wait another 48 hours before applying a final finish to seal the decals. Cured Future is impervious to light coats of enamels and lacquers, so flat overcoats like Testors Dullcoat can be used, just don't over do it! Acrylic flat coats such as Polly Scale, Testor Acryl or Gunze Sangyo Aqueous clear flat will not harm Future.

Future Flat: Future can be made into a clear flat overcoat with the addition of a flattening agent. Some modelers mix talcum powder with Future, others combine a flat base such as Tamiya or Gunze Sangyo with Future and airbrush that for a flat finish.

Photo etched parts adhesive: Modelers can use Future as an adhesive to tack small photo etched metal parts to cockpits and canopies.

Making Mud Puddles: Future can be used for making mud puddles or standing water in dioramas. Its not as thick a epoxy and is easier to work with. Pastel powders can be mixed with Future to create grime and mud. Future can also be sprayed over ground work to simulate dew or rain.

Instrument Glass: Tiny drops of Future can simulate the glass covers of instruments in cockpits of dashboards.

Seam Filler: A mix of talcum powder and future makes a quick-drying seam filler that sets hard, yet sands easily.

Tinted Clear Parts: You can create your own transparent colors by mixing Future with food coloring and brushing it on. For those gold colored canopies of jets you can try using a few drops of Tamiya X12 Gold Leaf to a couple of teaspoons of Future.

Master Sealant: If you make your own mold patterns for casting in resin, a coat of Future over the masters helps create a clean molding.

Metallic Future: Mix a little SnJ powder with Future to create a rock hard gloss silver finish.

Coating Clear Parts: This is the most common use of Future in modeling. Make sure that the clear parts are free from wax or oils such as your fingerprints before you apply Future, any oily contaminate will repel the Future. Remove or decant the Future from its bottle into a wide mouth jar such as an empty salsa jar.

Leaving a sprue attachment point on the clear part provides a handle for you. Slowly dip each clear piece several times, you don't want to create bubbles. Pull the piece out and let the Future drain for a few seconds by touching the lower edge against the jar. Wick away any excess build up along the lower edge on a paper towel. Then attach the sprue to a third hand and cover with a Tupperware or something similar to keep any dust off the Future. Let Future dry at least 48 hours before masking and painting. Masking does not usually leave any adhesive residue on Futured parts. A Future coated clear part free of fingerprints resists the white fogging caused by super glue as it cures. If fogging does occur another coat of Future often will make it disappear.

If you are not satisfied with a clear part coated with Future you can remove it by soaking it the ammonia/water mixture for an hour or so. Even a soak in fresh Future will dissolve the previous coats.

Tips

Future can be retarded or made to dry more slowly by adding a couple of drops of liquid dishwashing detergent to a jarful of Future. Other retarders a Windex, Polly Scale airbrush thinner, and rubbing alcohol.

Clouding: Strong decal setting solutions like Micro Sol will react with Future that has not cured fully and create a white haze. This haze will

disappear when you apply a second coat of Future. Remember to allow Future to cure long enough to prevent this.

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