Data / information sheets issued by the Technische Kommission Haushalts-, Hobby-und Büroklebstoffe (Technical Commission on household, hobby and office adhesives):

• TKHHB-2 Guideline Adhesives and Toys

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TKHHB-Informationsheet 1



Information on First Aid measures when working with superglue

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Prepared by the Technische Kommission Haushalts-, Hobby- und Büroklebstoffe (TKHHB) (Technical Commission on household, hobby and office adhesives) in the Industrieverband Klebstoffe e.V. (German Adhesives Association), Düsseldorf





Cyanoacrylate adhesives are very fast curing products with high bonding characteristics, commonly sold as superglues (or instant glues, Power Glue, Magic Glue, NASA Glue etc.).

Cyanoacrylate adhesives bond very rapidly when in contact with moisture (such as air humidity, skin moisture, sweat, sebum, tear fluid, salvia).

Within seconds, they can bond human tissue, including skin or eyes.

Experience has shown that with proper procedures in case of accidents, surgical interventions are unnecessary as long as the following instructions and procedures are complied with.

Even without any intervention, over time cyanoacrylate adhesives peel off automatically from skin, eyes and mouth as a result of the effect of skin moisture/sweat, tear liquid or saliva.

Bonding to skin

Skin to skin

Bonded skin



Remove superglue with vegetable oil (sun flower oil, corn oil, rapeseed oil).

Do not panic and do not try to pull the bonded skin apart. You might injure your skin.

Liberally apply oil to bonded and adjoining areas and wait for the oil to soak in. Then slowly start peeling off the adhesive from the edges (if necessary, repeat the procedure several times).

After adhesive has been removed, clean the skin area with water and soap.



Solvents, like acetone, do not work effectively on the skin and should not be used on the body.



Remove adhesive with water and soap.

If no vegetable oil is at hand, thoroughly immerse affected skin area in warm soapy water. Then gently introduce tweezers, a spatula or similar instruments between the bonded skin areas and try to separate them with slow movements.

Afterwards, apply a skin lotion to protect skin from dryness.



Never peel off adhesive from skin. Skin parts may be torn off.

On scalp / hair



Wash scalp/hair and then apply ample amounts of body oil to the affected area(s) and leave it on, e.g. over night (if necessary, repeat several times).

Over time, adhesive will peel off from scalp.

Skin to other materials

See measures 'skin to skin'.

Bonding to eyes



Never try to open the eye forcibly.



Immediately rinse with warm water and cover eye with a wet gaze patch.



In case of bonding to eyes an eye specialist is to be called immediately.

If no physician is available and without further treatment the eye will open within 1 to 4 days.

In any case, we recommend to consult a physician.

With treatment and special medical rinses, the peel off process can be considerably shortened.

The debonding of eye lashes can be accelerated by using eye- and mucosa-friendly oils.

Any manipulation of eyes and mucous membranes requires the attention of medical professionals!

Mouth



In case of accidental bonding of lips, apply a generous amount of warm water and encourage maximum wetting and pressure from saliva from inside the mouth.

Normally, the bonding can be broken by moving lips/mouth. Remove adhesive residues with water and oily skin ointment/oil.



Never try to separate the bonded lips forcibly.

It is rather unlikely that cyanoacrylate adhesives are swallowed because the adhesive hardens immediately and will adhere to the inside of the mouth (white film / agglomerates).

Typically no further treatment is required!

Saliva will detach adhesive from the lining of the mouth within 1 or 2 days. In case of larger agglomerates in the mouth, the patient must be supported in a way to prevent agglomerates being swallowed once loosened. Make sure airways are not obstructed.

Burns

Cyanoacrylate adhesives release heat when hardening. In rare cases and larger drops of adhesives, the increase in temperatures can cause burns.

In case of burns caused by cyanoacrylate adhesives, follow the usual treatment guidelines. If possible carefully remove the adhesive and/or the bonded object (e.g. protective glove). (See page 2).

Surgical treatment



Accidentally bonded skin must never be separated surgically.

Even without treatment, cyanoacrylate adhesives will automatically peel off over time from skin, eyes or mouth on account of skin moisture/sweat, tear liquid of salvia.