

Scorch Paste FAQ

What is Scorch Paste?

Scorch Paste is a water-based product that creates a permanent, wood-burned look when heated. Apply it with a squeegee through a stencil, let it dry, and then use a heat tool to activate the burning effect. It's an easy way to achieve a professional engraved style without special woodburning tools.

How do I apply Scorch Paste?

- Position your stencil on a clean, dry surface.
- Use a squeegee to apply a thin, even layer of paste over the design.
- Remove the stencil while the paste is still wet to prevent clogging or damage.
- Allow the paste design to fully dry before applying heat.
- Once dry, use a heat gun or hair dryer until the design darkens to your desired look.

Do I need to let the paste dry before scorching?

Yes. Designs should dry completely after stencil removal. Scorching wet paste can lead to bubbling, uneven burns, or smudging. Drying first gives the cleanest, most controlled results.

Why remove the stencil before drying?

The paste should never be left to dry inside the stencil screen. If it dries in place, it can damage the stencil and ruin the design. Always peel the stencil off right after applying paste, then let the design air dry on the surface before heat activation.

Can I use Scorch Paste on hats or fabric?

Yes—with caution:

- Apply paste with a squeegee through your stencil.
- Remove the stencil immediately after applying paste.
- Let the design dry completely before heat.
- Use a heat gun or hair dryer, keeping it moving and working in small sections (especially on curved areas like hats).
- Avoid overheating—fabric can scorch outside of the design if too much heat is applied.

Can I use Scorch Paste on sealed, stained, or painted surfaces?

No. It's designed for unfinished wood or natural fabric. Using it on sealed or painted items may cause toxic fumes and uneven results. After burning, you can stain, paint, or seal the finished piece if desired.

Is it safe to use on cutting boards or food-contact items? Yes, but with precautions:

- After scorching, always apply a food-safe sealer to protect the design.
- Reapply the sealer regularly, as instructed by the product manufacturer.

What heat tools can I use?

- Our recommended heat gun operates at AC120V ~ 50– 60Hz ~ 350W and works effectively with Scorch Paste.
- Any standard craft heat gun that reaches a high temperature will also work.
- A hair dryer can be used but will take longer to activate the design.
- Keep the heat source moving to avoid burning areas outside the design.

How long does Scorch Paste take to burn?

Activation time depends on:

- Heat tool strength (a hair dryer may take several minutes vs. a heat gun).
- How dark you want the burn.
- Type of wood or fabric—softer woods scorch more quickly than hardwoods.

How should I store Scorch Paste?

- Keep sealed tightly when not in use.
- Store below 70°F (21°C) in a cool, dry place.
- Shelf life is approximately 12 months unopened.

Is Scorch Paste safe?

- The paste is non-toxic.
- Always craft in a well-ventilated area when applying heat.
- Avoid inhaling fumes directly and use caution when handling hot materials.

Can I thin or dilute Scorch Paste?

No. Do not add water or other liquids—it will change the formula and prevent proper burning.

How do I clean stencils?

Some users with burn paste products, like Torch Paste, note occasional smudging or flecks post-heat. Lightly wiping or sanding after burning can help remove residue.

Handling smudging or flecks

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Issue & Recommended Fix:

Paste bleeding under stencil: Apply less paste with lighter pressure

Uneven burn: Ensure paste is fully dry; heat tool needs slow, even movement

Fabric over-scorched: Move heat tool faster or reduce heat intensity

Residue/flecks after burning: Gently wipe or lightly sand the surface

Stencil clogging: Remove when paste is wet and rinse immediately after use