

Mighty Mask

Mighty Mask is a great masking resist for anodizing on Niobium, etching and bead blasting. The sky is the limit for creativity when you use these pre-cut designs or cut your own designs from the plain sheet using craft scissors, punches or a craft knife.

1. Make sure metal is clean, degreased and free from lint and debris.
2. Using tweezers or the tip of a craft knife, remove the design from the sheet, being careful not to stretch the mask or touch the sticky side. Place the mask on your metal. You only get one shot at this step, as the mask is very sticky and can't be repositioned. ****Hint:** If you're having difficulty seeing the edges to lift the mask, try running a dry erase marker over the mask, then wipe off. This will show the outlines.
3. Using a brayer, roll over the mask several times. Burnish the edges gently to seal them using a bone folder (never metal) Be careful not to stretch the edges by pushing too hard as this can cause leaks.
4. Now you are ready to anodize, bead blast or etch. To anodize, choose the highest voltage color you want to use and color your Niobium.
5. Remove the mask carefully by using a fingernail to pry up an edge.
6. From here, you can leave the uncolored areas as they are or color them at a lower voltage than your first color.

Additional notes:

You can gain more control of laying the mask down by spraying the metal with original Windex window cleaner first. This allows you to move the mask exactly where you want it. Let it dry for several hours before doing a final burnish and anodizing. Do NOT leave the mask on for more than a few hours (unless you're using the Windex first) as it will become permanent and difficult to remove.

Terrific Transfer Tape

Terrific Transfer Tape is the "helping hand" to move large or very intricate masks to your metal without stretching or getting them stuck together.

1. Start by cutting out a section of the mask (including the backing sheet).
2. Using a pair of sharp tweezers or craft knife, "weed" out the areas of mask you don't want to use on your piece. If you're careful, you may be able to set them aside on release paper for use later, but it's usually easier to just toss them unless they are simple designs.
3. Cut a piece of Terrific Transfer Tape that's just slightly larger than the section of mask. Carefully remove the backing layer of the transfer tape and lay it down on top of the mask.
4. Using a brayer with gentle pressure, roll over the mask/transfer tape combo.
5. Slowly remove the backing layer from the mask. If the transfer has left some part of the mask behind just carefully lay it back down on the backing layer and burnish the mask with a bone folder to attach it to the transfer tape.
6. Now place the mask/transfer onto the metal. Using the brayer, apply pressure firmly to adhere to metal.
7. With a side to side rocking motion, firmly but slowly pull back the transfer tape, taking care to make sure the mask has remained on the metal. If not, lay the transfer tape back down and burnish firmly.
8. Once the mask is down, start at Step 3 of the Mask instructions to continue on.



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INSTRUCTIONS

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