

# FAQs

## Putty, Caulks and Water Barriers



**Q** What is the shelf life for plumber's putty?

**A** 2 years from date of manufacture if the lid is sealed properly.

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**Q** Is Oatey epoxy putty NSF approved?

**A** Yes.

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**Q** Is Oatey epoxy putty paintable?

**A** Yes. Always make sure that your paint is compatible with the epoxy. This is normally done by contacting the paint manufacturer.

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**Q** Once epoxy putty has cured, what is the temperature limit it can withstand?

**A** Maximum temperature is 250°F.

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**Q** Why is there a warning label on plumber's putty stating it may cause cancer?

**A** This warning is listed because the plumber's putty contains small traces of Quartz; however, the Quartz is inextricably bound and cannot come out of the product, so as a result it is not harmful.

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**Q** Can any Oatey plumber's putty be used with ABS materials?

**A** No, putty should not be used on ABS materials. Instead, silicone sealant is recommended.

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**Q** How do I remove epoxy putty?

**A** Once epoxy putty cures it can only be removed mechanically (i.e. grinder, drill).

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### **Q Can I use epoxy putty to repair my wood cabinets?**

**A** Yes. You must prep the surface first. This means that all finishes must be removed and the surface roughed up to allow the epoxy putty a good surface for bonding.

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### **Q If I drill a screw into epoxy putty, will it be strong enough?**

**A** Yes. Epoxy putty can be drilled, tapped and machined while maintaining its integrity.

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### **Q How do I remove plumber's putty from the drain lines and sink?**

**A** Any plumber's putty which falls into the drain in small quantities will dissolve and flow through the drain without incident.

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### **Q What is the difference between stain-free and regular plumber's putty?**

**A** Oatey Stain-Free Plumber's Putty performs the same as other plumber's putty. Its formula, however, has the added benefit of being safe for use without staining staining on most porous surfaces, including granite, marble, quartz, sandstone and Corian®.

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### **Q If the putty is dried out, can something be added to regenerate the putty?**

**A** No. Once the putty has dried there is nothing that can be added to regenerate the putty without affecting the quality of the product.

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### **Q How can an oil stain be removed from a porous surface (stone, granite, etc.)?**

**A** Oatey does not have any proven method for removing these stains and recommend you contact your installer or supplier for their recommendations relating to the material in question.

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**Q Can plumber's putty be used to seal windows and doors?**

**A** No. Plumber's putty is not designed to take the place of caulk and doesn't have any insulating values to control temperature changes.

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**Q Can plumber's putty be used to seal the toilet bowl to the finished floor?**

**A** No. Plumber's putty is not designed to support any weight distribution associated with the base of the toilet setting on the floor. The integrity of the putty can also be compromised by cleaners and urine that it may come in contact with on the floor of bathroom. Plumber's putty does not have any adhesion value like caulk, which is used to help secure the toilet bowl to the floor.

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**Q Can Stain-Free Plumber's Putty be used when installing the drain on an acrylic tub and/or shower unit?**

**A** No. Plumber's putty could have an adverse effect on the acrylic finish. You should only use 100% silicone for this application.