

FAKE CRUDE OIL

Washable, non-toxic, biodegradable and vegan fake crude oil for around 25p to 50p a litre.

INGREDIENTS

1L of water
½ tspn (2.5ml) of black pond dye crystals
3 ¼ tspns (16.25ml) of fine guar gum powder

EQUIPMENT

Electric whisk or blender
2L measuring jug
Set of cook's measuring spoons
Storage container

USES

This recipe is very versatile and can be used in lots of places, some examples are:

- Government buildings
- Banks
- Fossil fuel companies
- Extraction research facilities

METHOD

Pour 1L of cold water into the measuring jug. Add ½ a level teaspoon (2.5ml) of black pond dye crystals. Whisk at full speed for about 1-minute until fully dissolved.

Add 3 ¼ level teaspoons (16.25ml) of guar gum powder to the solution. Mix straight away on the highest speed for about 1 ½ to 2 minutes until the solution appears thick.

The result will depend on how fine your guar gum powder is. If you use coarse powder try using closer to 4 teaspoons per litre. When you dip your finger into the fake oil, or throw it onto a vertical surface, it should mostly stick, remain thick, black and photogenic, without a blue tint around the edges. The oil will thicken a little more in time. Check the consistency after half a day or so.

NOTES & CAUTION:

Guar gum is your go-to plant-based cold liquid thickener. Other more common thickeners are much less economical and only work in a pre-heated solution.

Pond dye is essentially synthetic vegan food-grade dye at a more economical price.

Guar gum and pond dye are easily purchased online. The most economical pack size for guar gum powder is 1KG and for dye crystals 1KG, 500g or 200g. Ready-mixed pond dye solution is less economical and also comes in a not so ecologically sound plastic bottle. 200g of dye crystals and 1KG of guar gum will make around 75L of fake oil.

Try to make up the fake oil as close to an action as possible especially in warmer weather where after a few days the solution may start to spoil and will eventually ferment. The solution should be more than OK after 1-week when in cold storage.

The pond dye is not very permanent and is even less inclined to stain once thickened. You should be able to completely wash the fake oil off most surfaces including stone using just water. A limited amount of staining may occur on some surfaces. Always spot-test first.

The fake oil is slippery to walk over. Be sure that there is room for people to walk around any fake oil spills and come prepared with some wet floor and slip hazard signs.



OIL OUR LOVE AND RAGE, XRN