Mixing Shellac Flakes: 2-lb Cut Ratios for Shop Use

Mixing shellac flakes for general brushing uses a 2-lb cut with 1 oz of dry flakes per 4 fl oz of alcohol, dissolved 24 to 48 hours, according to Shellac.net in October 2026. That ratio equals 8 dry ounces per quart, as Shellac.net shows on its pound-cut chart accessed November 2026. Flakes go into alcohol in a sealed glass jar, with shaking during the first day. A cup or two covers mid-sized parts, as Woodcraft Magazine reported in August 2011.

What Ratio Does Mixing Shellac Flakes Need?

Mixing shellac flakes for brushing uses a 2-lb cut with 8 dry ounces per quart, according to Shellac.net accessed November 2026. Thin sealing uses a 1-lb cut, while heavier buildup uses a 3-lb cut, according to Shellac.net in October 2026. The shop rule is 1 oz of flakes in 1 cup of alcohol for a 1-lb cut, as Woodcraft Magazine reported in August 2011.

Alcohol | 1.5-lb cut | 2-lb cut | 3-lb cut

1 quart | 6 oz | 8 oz | 12 oz
1 pint | 3 oz | 4 oz | 6 oz
1 cup | 1.5 oz | 2 oz | 3 oz

Shop work with gloss finish stays small because a cup or two covers mid-sized parts, as Woodcraft Magazine reported in August 2011. As Shellac.net wrote on its pound-cut chart accessed November 2026, "Weigh the flake first; pour the alcohol last."

How Does Mixing Shellac Flakes Dissolve Without Clumps?

Mixing shellac flakes dissolves in 24 to 48 hours in a sealed glass jar, according to Shellac.net in October 2026. Alcohol goes in first, then flakes are added slowly to limit clumps, according to Shellac.net in October 2026. Our testing method uses glass jars with tight lids because metal can harm the mix, as Shellac.net noted accessed November 2026. Finished mix is poured through a paint filter, according to Shellac.net in October 2026.

Mixing Shellac Flakes Keeps 3 Months Cool or 6 Months Sealed

Mixing shellac flakes keeps 3 months cool, or 6 months sealed maximum, according to Shellac.net in November 2026 and The Craftsman Blog in November 2020. Mixed jars stay sealed cool away from open flame, according to Shellac.net accessed November 2026. Dried finish touches in about 30 minutes and recoats in about 4 hours, according to The Craftsman Blog in November 2020.

Which Topcoat Follows Mixing Shellac Flakes?

Mixing shellac flakes with 4% natural wax feels smoother but blocks recoats, according to The Craftsman Blog in November 2020. Dewaxed mix accepts polyurethane or lacquer above it, according to The Craftsman Blog in November 2020. Sealers pair with laminating glue work in shops that finish glued parts after assembly.

Mixing Shellac Flakes FAQ

How much alcohol does mixing shellac flakes need for a 2-lb cut?

Mixing shellac flakes needs 4 fl oz of alcohol for each 1 oz of flakes to make a 2-lb cut, according to Shellac.net in October 2026. That equals 28 g per 118 ml as of October 2026. A quart batch uses 8 dry ounces, as Shellac.net shows on its pound-cut chart accessed November 2026.

How long does mixing shellac flakes take to dissolve?

Mixing shellac flakes takes 24 to 48 hours at room temperature, according to Shellac.net in October 2026. Alcohol goes in the glass jar first, then flakes are added slowly to limit clumps. The jar stays capped tight and is shaken a few times daily.

How long does mixing shellac flakes last after mixing?

Mixing shellac flakes lasts about 3 months sealed cool, and up to 6 months sealed, according to Shellac.net accessed November 2026 and The Craftsman Blog in November 2020. Mix only what the next months need. Test older mix with a drop on glass before use.

Does mixing shellac flakes need dewaxed or waxed flakes?

Mixing shellac flakes works the same for dewaxed and wax-in grades, according to Shellac.net in October 2026. Natural shellac holds about 4% wax, according to The Craftsman Blog in November 2020. Dewaxed mix accepts later polyurethane coats, while waxed mix stays under shellac due to adhesion limits.