

SILICON SEALANT

Tool: Sealant/Mastic/Skeleton gun



The cartridge gun, also called a sealant/skeleton/mastic gun, is what you need for doing any jobs with sanitary sealant in your bathroom.

Use this guide with the Cartridge Gun PDF for cartridge gun use instructions.

HOW TO:

Before you start, ensure the area is free from any old sealant and dirt.

It is best to give it a wipe with white spirit (or similar) to ensure you have no dirt or grease that could prevent the sealant from sticking well.

Next, use masking tape all along the area above and below where you will be applying the sealant. (see photos)

Don't make the gap for the sealant too wide.



Go all the way around the area you want to seal.



Then FILL THE BATH with water. It is essential to ensure the sealant is applied with weight in the bath.

Next, start applying the sealant using the cartridge gun. Do a test of the flow on a piece of kitchen roll or cloth first and then when you are satisfied it is working okay, start along the line going slowly and steadily.

If you need to stop, you can, just restart again fairly quickly. You can smooth the join after, no problem.

If you spill any sealant, wipe it up straight away using a piece of kitchen roll or similar.

Next you will need your bowl of water with a little washing up liquid squirted in.

You don't need that much washing up liquid, especially if you have a coloured one, as you don't want the colour to transfer to your sealant. Use just enough to make the water a little soapy. Avoid having too many bubbles.



With your kitchen roll or cloth nearby, dip your finger into the soapy water and start to go along the line smoothing the sealant.

Don't apply too much pressure as it will give you a big lump at the end.

You want it to look even all the way along the line. Go slowly and steadily.

You can only smooth once with your wet finger. If you stop, make sure you wipe that finger and then re wet it before you go back to the sealant.



As soon as the sealant is all smoothed, start to carefully remove the masking tape all the way round pulling diagonally helps to avoid creating a big edge. Now go back and smooth the edges down with your soapy finger again.

It is possible to keep going back over the sealant but only if you have a clean, wet finger.

Keep wiping your finger and freshly wetting it to make sure.

You will want to pay particular attention to the edges of the sealant, where you have removed the masking tape, as this are where there will be a “lip” that needs soothing down.

If you find there is a gap where you haven’t put quite enough sealant, apply some more and then smooth it down again.

Top Tip:

Keep some spare empty nozzles in your tool kit. If you don’t use all the sealant this time, you can put a new nozzle on if you want to use the sealant again.



We recommend you buy Dow Corning 785 sanitary sealant. Expect to pay £5 - £6