

Flux recipes

These are the recipes for flux that are commonly used in silver-smithing.

Prip's Flux

John Prip's original recipe for flux.

The recipe for the flux is:

1 quart water
120 grams boric acid
80 grams TSP (trisodium phosphate)
80 grams borax
(Be sure to keep this ratio)

Mix it dry and keep in a airtight glass container. Mix with hot water as needed.

Frips Fabulous Flux

Fred Fenster modified John Prip's original recipe slightly. This is the flux that I use. I got the recipe from Fred when I was taking classes at UW Madison. I feel quite honored to have been able to learn from him.

The recipe for the flux is:

50 grams dry Cascade (the green box)
120 grams boric acid
80 grams Borax ("20 mule team" laundry soap)
(Be sure to keep this ratio)

Mix with 1 quart of water and boil to make a super saturated solution. The extra ingredients will precipitate out again when cool. Keep in an airtight glass container.

Quench in water first before putting items in your pickle. If you use a brush to apply the flux you need to remember to use a brush that does not have a metal ferrule.

When applying this flux I suggest using a 'glaze sprayer'. I use the kind that looks like a set of tubes with a hinge. Cheap, easy to use and easy to clean when the flux dries. I use a small plastic bottle and fill it from my larger supply as needed. Have a shield of some kind behind your work as this will get all over your bench.

Look them up on the internet and you will find many places that sell them.



Handout 2: Jerry's Basic Jewelry Bench-work 2, using a mouth-pipe to solder. <http://www.livingstonjewelers.com/class.html>