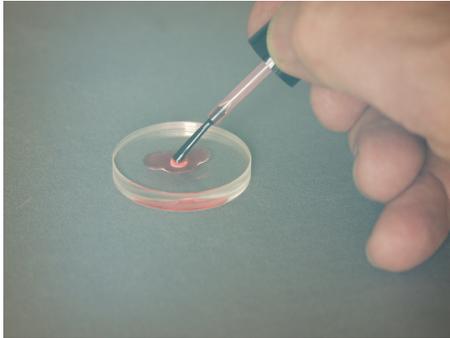


First Contact Instructions August 2012

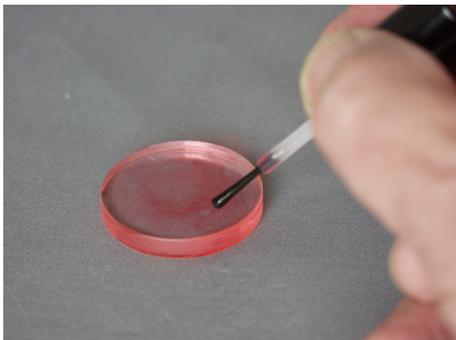
First Contact™ Polymer is a one part system that is easy to use. We recommend that you make some test runs, practicing the technique once or twice prior to a critical use. The instructions show application from the brush see separate instruction sheet for spray application

DO NOT USE ON PLASTIC LENSES (SPECTACLES)

STANDARD APPLICATION PROCESS



1. **Apply** First Contact™ directly with the brush supplied in the applicator bottle. For larger surfaces (25mm or larger) pour or squeeze drops of First Contact directly from the refill bottle. Liberally coat the surface without allowing First Contact™ to run under retaining rings or mountings. It may be useful to apply multiple thin coats, allowing each to partially dry.



2. **Spread** First Contact™ Polymer using the applicator brush or other appropriate object. (As a general precaution, always test the applicator to be used. Some applicator components or the glue holding brush bristles may dissolve in First Contact™.) Gently spread the solution to make a thick, even coating on the surface to be cleaned. DO NOT use a scrubbing action. DO take care "cutting-in" the edges to avoid spilling over the edge of the optic. Take care to keep it out of any mounting frames when cleaning an assembled or mounted part. Toothpicks (wood is usually softer than your substrate) can be used to get dried polymer out of corners etc. if necessary.

3. **Cure** the polymer by allowing it to dry completely (at least 15 – 20 minutes for 1" flat optics, overnight for frosted surfaces, diffraction gratings, silver mirrors and gold mirrors while learning to use First Contact™). Drying time depends on film thickness, temperature, and humidity. The solvents must be able to evaporate for the film to dry. Film adhesion remains high until the film is completely dry; in fact the film adhesion continues to decline until all solvents are gone from the polymer film, this is why very long dry times are suggested for the most sensitive optics. When in doubt, allow more time to dry. After you have some experience and success, then shorten dry times according to your experience and needs.



4. **Remove** cured First Contact™ Polymer by applying the special lint-free peel tabs at any film edge and lift the film. Lint-free peel tabs are provided with standard and deluxe kits or can be purchased separately. Alternatively you can use tape, such as masking tape or small adhesive labels. It is suggested you test the intended tape or label first to ensure its suitability. To use a peel tab, remove the backing, extend the peel tab over an edge, place the tab adhesive-side down onto the cured film, and press it firmly into place. Allow about 30 seconds for the tab's adhesive to fully adhere to the polymer. Lift and pull up on the tab from the edge. Once an edge starts to lift, the entire film will come off easily. Remove all of the film.

Your part should now be clean. Take care not to touch the optical surface with the sticky tabs (First Contact™ can be used to remove peel tab adhesive). Remove residual polymer on retaining rings/mountings with a strong wooden toothpick that will not scratch your optic. If the polymer film tore during removal, it was too thin. Reapply First Contact over the old film using a thicker application or multiple thin coats.



Clean up can be accomplished by simply returning the applicator brush to the original bottle. Secure the cap; return the bottle and unused peel tabs to the case. Dispose cured First Contact™ film and used peel tabs in the trash. Other applicators can be cleaned using acetone.

Useful hints from a customer – Many thanks to Luis from Bristol for supplying this useful tip.

A lifting method for First Contact™ polymer lens cleaner

First Contact™ can be fiddly when trying to clean small, recessed lenses like those on 35mm rangefinder or compact digital cameras. The main problem appears when trying to lift the dried film using sticky tape. Applying the tape to the central patch of the film is useless because of the increased surface tension in that area. Getting a proper grip on the edge of the film causes the tape to smear the lens surface.

I found that using tabs made of card gives much more control of film removal. I cut tabs out of an ordinary flyer made of coated card (estimated 180-220g). I believe that using watercolour or art card would provide a much better bond with the film as they have a more irregular and porous surface.



I cut the card to about 50x8mm, but the width of the tab can be adjusted to lens size. The tab gets then folded twice along its length to a “u” shape with sharp angles. A generous coating of First Contact™ is then applied to the lens as required and allowed to dry to a tacky state. The bottom segment of the tab is now coated with some First Contact™ and pressed onto the edge of the film. It doesn't matter if the tab goes over the edge as it will not smear the lens. Now apply another coat of First Contact™ ensuring to also coat the top side of the tab's bottom section to provide extra grip. Allow for extra drying time as the final film coat will be quite thick. Gently pulling at the now standing ends of the tab will lift the film from the lens without leaving any smudges.

WARRANTY Based on our experience, we believe that our information is accurate, but we offer no guarantee as to the use or application of our products or of this information. We warrant our products to be free from defects in material and workmanship; but because the use of the product is beyond our control, we accept no responsibility or liability for damages, whether direct, indirect or consequential, resulting from failure in performance. In cases where our products are found to be defective in material or workmanship, our liability is limited to the purchase price of the products found to be defective. **This warranty is to the exclusion of all other warranties or guarantees expressed or implied, as to merchantability, fitness for any particular purpose, description, productiveness or any other matter.** None of the above information may be construed as a recommendation that our products be used in violation of any patent rights. We accept your orders at our shipping points only on the basis of the above understanding that our employees have no authority to vary.