

Linkmax Paste Pak Dual-Cure Adhesive Cement (Project 02-32) (9/03)

Linkmax Paste Pak is a dual-curing resin cement from GC America. Designed for use with all types of porcelain, composite, and precious and non-precious metal restorations, Linkmax offers ample working time, ease of clean up, and low film thickness. The adhesive cement is dispensed in two pastes from dual-tube cartridges that are inserted into a metal, hand-operated device. It uses a self-etching primer to bond to tooth structure and separately-available primers to bond to prostheses, core build-ups and posts made out of different materials. The company claims the fluoride-releasing resin cement provides high compressive, adhesive, and shear bond strengths. The cement is available in two shades (A3 and clear).



Manufacturer:

GC America
3737 W. 127th Street
Alsip, IL 60803
(800) 323-7063
(708) 597-0900
(708) 371-5103 FAX
www.gcamerica.com

Suggested Retail Price:

\$249.00 Linkmax Paste Pak Starter Package (item number 42001) contains:

- 6.0 g (3.0 ml) Paste Pak Cartridge A3
- 6.0 g (3.0 ml) Paste Pak Cartridge Clear
- 3.0 ml Self-etching primer EP-A
- 1.5 ml Self-etching primer EP-B
- 50 Pink Micro-tips
- 50 Yellow Micro-tips
- One Micro-tip handle
- One mixing dish, 3 well
- One mixing spatula
- Paste Pak Applicator

Government Price:

\$102.40 Linkmax Paste Pak Starter Package (item number and contents as listed above)

ADVANTAGES:

- + Paste/paste formulation makes cement easier to dispense and mix than other brands of resin cement.
- + Film thickness is lowest of all resin cements yet evaluated by DIS.
- + One of the more inexpensive resin cements per gram of refill yet evaluated by DIS.
- + Easy to clean up excess cement from the margins.
- + Dispensing system was highly rated.
- + Working time is more than adequate.
- + Adequately radiopaque for detection on radiographs.
- + Expiration dates and lot numbers are provided on cement cartridges.
- + Proper storage conditions listed on product box.
- + No post-treatment sensitivity reported during evaluation.

DISADVANTAGES:

- Kit does not contain all components needed to cement any restorations.
- Ceramic, metal and composite primers must be purchased separately.

- Ceramic etchant is not an available accessory.
- Only two shades available.
- No try-in pastes available.
- Only one viscosity.
- Low bond strength to dentin.
- No long term clinical data.
- Not shipped with a Material Safety Data Sheet.
- Longer setting time (over 5 minutes) than other resin cements evaluated by DIS.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS:

Linkmax Paste Pak is a dual-curing resin cement designed to lute various types of prostheses to tooth structure. The product's dispensing system and handling characteristics were rated highly. Linkmax has the lowest film thickness of any resin cement yet evaluated by DIS. The working time, setting time, and radiopacity were good to excellent. Refill per gram of resin cement is one of the least expensive among products evaluated by DIS. However, the Starter Package does not contain all materials necessary to cement any restorations. Separate bottles of ceramic, metal, and composite primers must be purchased separately. The single-viscosity cement is available in only two shades and without any try-in pastes. **Linkmax Paste Pak Dual-Cure Resin-Adhesive Cement** is rated **Acceptable** for use by the federal dental services.