

# by Margaret Smith

Perhaps the most famous mask of all is the fabulous gold death mask of the ancient Egyptian Pharoh Tutankhamun. His visage is serene and at rest, and completely covers for all eternity the withered, dried up, mummified face slowly turning to dust, that is reality. I can see that we modern European types are so like the Ancient Egyptains, as we hold an ideal to the world, hoping no-one will actually notice our skin is baggy and blotchy, our teeth yellowing and broken. Makeup and all those lovely wrinkle removers and smoothers are now mainstays of the modern womans' (and some mens') morning ritual. (Change that to "mourning ritual" and bingo -



Ancient Egyptian mask).

Face masks in our times are now hugely popular. There is every imaginable type of mask that claims to do all sorts of things to ones outer layers. They hydrate or tighten or build collagen, whiten or brighten, calm acne or scars. The modern gold leaf and colloidal gold mask claims to do all these and maybe even give one eternal life, however I think that so much preciousness going down the drain upsets me just a tad. I would want to leave it on forever, just like Tutankhamun, always shiny and beautiful.

Entire stores are currently dedicated to the face mask, especially in Asia.

It was once very embarrassing to be seen whilst induging in the art of masking, it is now fashionable. Especially with tha aptly named "facebook", you tube and so many young and old bloogeres showing all and sundry masks for the taking.

The easiest old fashioned masks were made from clay "to draw out all sorts of nasty oily and seeping things". Kaolin clay is has been the most common and is made up of the constituent kaolinite and has the notable composition of aluminium oxide (Al2O3) and silica (SiO2). Coloured and white clays are by far the most popular masks.

After plain old clay comes ground up

semiprecious stones. This photo of a turquoise face mask of an Aztec god is one of my favourites. Really, he looks more like Bart Simpson on a bad day than anything really scary. Turquoise is not much used in skin care, however the claimed mind clarifying benefits attributed to turquoise could only help us all. Precious and semi precious stones have long had alleged therapeutic properties. Our friend Tony Dweck in an article on just this subject summarises some of the elements and their claim to fame. Thanks Tony.



## **Therapeutic Gemstone Properties**

This is a topic which may either be believed or treated with skepticism. However, the discovery of Scandinavian amber in a Neolithic grave near Stonehenge in Wiltshire shows that precious stones played a significant role in the culture of these early people and would travel vast distances as traded goods or offerings. Even today, a huge monetary importance is placed on these quality mineral forms and there is a revival in some individual groups with the importance of these stones in health and well-being. Stones should not have any chips or fractures, they should be left as found and not irradiated or dyed. They may be polished or rounded. The list is a fraction of the information widely available. ACD: Perhaps this could be put in a box?

Amazonite: improves self worth and confidence.

Amber: lift heaviness and depression.

Amethyst: spiritually uplifting, may improve communication and used for stomach problems.

Apatite: to improve communication when there has been a misunderstanding and used to fight virus infections.

Aquamarine: reminiscent of the sea, stands for love and mercy and recommend for those in grief.

Blue Aventurine: good for circulation and to clear congestion.

Green Aventurine: physical healing. It is often used with emerald and frosted quartz. Aventurine that is transparent is believed to be extremely powerful although the immature transparent aventurine may fade.

Cape Amethyst: for inner alignment.

Camelian: to balance creativity and mental processes.

*Citrine:* upliftment and help to process energy in work.

Coral: for emotional foundation.

*Diamond:* is for the increase of personal clarity. *Emerald:* for physical and emotional healing.

*Green Fluorite:* for hormone balance, such as PMS and menopause.

Purple Rainbow Fluorite: for change.

Jade: for relaxation and releasing tension.

Kunzite: for emotional support.

Lapis: to understand the mind and connecting the heart and mind.

Leopardskin Jasper: supposed to bring things that are needed.

Mahogany Obsidian: for decision making.

Malachite: bring harmony into life.

*Moldavite:* Grounding stone which puts one in their body.

*Grey Moonstone:* helps the power of other stones powers by cleansing blocks.

Orange Moonstone: similar to white moonstone but less powerful.

White Moonstone: helps effect and understanding of other stones by amplifying their effect. It balances yin/yang.

*Moss Agate:* to get in touch with nature and have plant knowledge.

Mother of Pearl: protection.

Black Obsidian: a grounding stone, used to gain insight into a problem.

Black Onyx: helps to change bad habits, is a grounding stone.

Mexican Onyx: aids better sleep.

Black Opal: to see inner soul and potential.

*Opal:* to see possibilities and discover a broader view.

Fresh Water Pearl: enable the acceptance of love.

*Peridot:* Brings the energies from the aura to the physical body.

Poppy Jasper: for positive outlook.

Frosted Quartz: for balance and soothing.

Rose Quartz: for emotional balance and soothing.

Rhodonite: emotional support.

Rhodocrosite: for change and used to give confidence during change.

Ruby: love; opens the heart, helps to overcome fear

Sapphire: for mental clarity, clears unwanted mental clutter.

Sodalite: protects from external negative energy.

*Sunstone:* enhances contemplation, used to remember dreams.

Sugilite: absorbs impurities from the wearer's aura to uplift me and give greater energy.

*Tanzanite:* for changes, uplifts and opens the heart.

Green Tourmaline: promotes male balance and physical healing (not for females).

Pink Tourmaline: promotes female balance and protection.

*Tree Agate:* introspection, enables wider view of the world with greater clarity.

*Unikite:* balances physical/emotions.



Of the old fashioned but tried and true face masks we have the homemade mashed vegetable and fruit series, like cucumber, strawberry, citrus, avocado, papaya, banana, tomato, watermelon and on and on. All roughly based on the same fruit acid concept that exfoliates chemically and adds a bit of water at the same time. Not very easy to have as a product, is fresh fruit, so dried powder versions are available to just add water and mix. Although I did make a reconstituted tomato mask but the smell



MARG SMITH is the owner of Syndet Works — an Australian company established in 1984 to formulate and produce soap free skincare bars. Syndet has developed an enviable reputation for custom formulated and manufactured skincare that now extend well beyond the origins of the business.



of the tomato powder was so off putting, well I needed something to mask it! Boom tish.

Completely modern concepts include my favourite face mask concept, are made with PVP, so they dry and then you can peel them off...just like the good old days when we got burnt to a cinder on the beach and peeled one another's skin off our backs in the evening. Not something one ever sees nowadays for very good reasons! Other types of masks move away from just the face and treat the hands, the hair, the feet and boobs.

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Again, please do not try the ancient recipes. All other formula are provided by suppliers and while every effort has been made to reproduce these formulations correctly, the Publisher cannot accept any liability for the information presented and are provided in good faith, but no warranty is given as to accuracy of information or results, or suitability for a particular use, nor is freedom from patent infringement to be inferred. Formulations are offered solely for consideration by the participating manufacturers. Please contact the supplier noted on each formula for more information.

Here again are some contributions to start you off with developing some different sorts of masks.

### BASF Peel Off Mask (ref SC-FR-13-009-A023) CONTACT - INGREDIENTS PLUS

Phase	Ingredients	INCI	% by weight
А	Water	Aqua	53.04
	Euxyl K 320	Phenoxyethanol, Methylparaben, Ethylparaben, Propylene Glycol	1.00
	Luviset® One	Acrylates/Methacrylamide Copolymer	5.00
	D-Panthenol USP	Panthenol	1.00
В	Xanthan Gum	Xanthan Gum	0.30
	Palmera G995B	Glycerin	1.00
С	Selvol 205	Polyvinyl Alcohol	12.00
D	Eumulgin® SMO 20	Polysorbate 80	0.50
	Fragrance	Fragrance	0.20
Е	Luviskol® K 90 Solution	PVP	5.00
F	Ethanol 96%	Alcohol	20.00
G	Reflecks™ Gilded Gold G232L	Calcium Sodium Borosilicate, Titanium Dioxide, Iron Oxides	0.20
	Reflecks™ Blazing Bronze G270L	Calcium Sodium Borosilicate, Iron Oxides	0.20
Н	Sodium Hydroxide (25% solution)	Sodium Hydroxide	0.56

### Manufacturing process

Add phase B, then phase C in phase A and heat at  $85^{\circ}$ C under stirring. Cool down at room temperature then add phases D, E, F and G. Finally, adjust the pH at 6.5 - 7.0 with phase H.

### Face Mask Sheet CONTACT - AS HARRISON

SC-1046

Kerazyne<sup>TM</sup> conditions the skin in this facial mask leaving it radiant and glowing. The mask provides moisture and radiance for soft, supple skin. Spectrastat<sup>TM</sup> OEL is a broad spectrum preservation system optimal for wipes and mask sheets.

	Ingredients (INCI Name)	Trade Name	%w/w
А	Deionized Water		76.40
	Microcrystalline Cellulose	Avicell PC 611 <sup>2</sup>	1.50
В	Glycerin		5.00
	Disodium EDTA		0.10
	Caprylhydroxamic Acid (and) Caprylyl Glycol (and) Propanediol (and) Ethylhexylglycerin	Spectrastat™ OEL1**	1.50
С	Butylene Glycol		5.00
	Algae Extract <sup>3</sup>		1.00
	Green Tea Extract <sup>3</sup>		1.00
	Polysorbate 80		0.50
	Sodium Hyaluronate, 1% Solution <sup>4</sup>		1.00
	Polyester-11	Kerazyne <sup>TM1*</sup>	1.00
	Cetearyl Isononanoate (and) Ceteareth-20 (and) Cetearyl Alcohol (and) Glyceryl Stearate (and) Glycerin (and) Ceteareth-12 (and) Cetyl Palmitate	Emulgade CM <sup>5</sup>	5.00
D	Skin Care Fragrance	6104726 <sup>6</sup>	1.00
		Total	100.00

### Procedure:

- 1 Combine phase "A" ingredients and heat to 80°C. Mix until uniform.
- 2 Heat phase "B" ingredients to 80°C and add to main vessel with propeller mixing.
- 3 Begin cooling and add phase "C" ingredients at 60°C.
- 4 Cool to room temperature while mixing and add phase "D".

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES: pH @ 25°C = 6.77 Viscosity @ 25°C (Brookfield RVT; Spindle 2-C @ 10 rpm) = 1,500 cps

### Sleeping Pack With SYN- TACKS CONTACT - BRENNTAG

Phase	Ingredient	INCI Name	% w/w	Supplier
А	Water Demineralised	Aqua	86.60	
	Hyaluronic Acid –BT	Sodium Hyaulronate	0.20	DSM / Brenntag
	EDTA	EDTA	0.10	BASF
	Aristoflex Velvet	Polyacrylate Crosspolymer-5	1.50	Clariant
В	Amphisol K	Potassium Cetyl Phosphate	0.30	DSM / Brenntag
	Lanol 99	Isononyl Isononanoate	3.00	Seppic / B&J
	Lexfeel 7	Neopentyl Glycol Diheptanoate	2.50	Inolex / AS Harrison
С	SeraSense SF CM5	Cyclopentasiloxane	0.50	KCC / Brenntag
	Syn-Tacks	Glycerin, Aqua, Palmitoyl Dipeptide-5 Diaminobutyloyl Hydroxythreonine, Palmitoyl Dipeptide-5 Diaminohydroxybutyrate	3.00	DSM / Brenntag
	Valvance Touch 150	Methyl Methacrylate Crosspolymer	1.00	DSM / Brenntag
	Fragrance	Parfum	0.30	

### Procedure:

- 1 Disperse Hyaluronic Acid in water and let it swell. Add other ingredients of phase A and disperse well.
- 2 Add part B together and heat up to 70°C. Add to part A and homogenize.
- 3 Add part C while stirring and homogenize thoroughly again.

### **Technical Data**

**pH:** 5.0-5.5

Viscosity (Brookfield RV4/10rpm):

28700 mPas



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