

# VITA LUMEX® UNIQUE FAQ

## General Information & Indications

### What is VITA LUMEX® UNIQUE?

VITA LUMEX® UNIQUE is a liquid ceramic system made of ready-to-use dental ceramics in paste form for the esthetic finalization of crowns and bridges. It is suitable for zirconia, lithium disilicate and feldspar ceramics. It also enables small shape corrections and the addition of contact points.

For detailed workflow information and technical specifications, please refer to the Instructions for Use: 10873 VITA LUMEX UNIQUE

https://eifu.vita-zahnfabrik.com

### Which framework materials are suitable for VITA LUMEX® UNIQUE?

Monolithic restorations in the CTE range of approx. 9.0–10.5 × $10^{-6}$ $K^{-1}$*, e.g.:

- Zirconia
- Lithium Disilicate
- Feldspar ceramics (e.g., VITABLOCS)

*CTE range is subject to a possible deviation of up to ± 0.5 x 10-6 K-1 according to ISO 6872

### Can I apply VITA LUMEX® UNIQUE directly to restorations?

Yes, the materials can be applied directly to zirconia, lithium disilicate and VITABLOCS restorations.

### Is the shade system sufficient for everyday practice?

Yes, the system offers a wide range of shades for most clinical applications.
In addition, the different pastes can be mixed as desired.

## Techniques & Application

### What is the difference between microlayering and conventional layering techniques?

Conventional layering techniques are used to build up shape and shade, whereas microlayering focuses on esthetic refinement with significantly less time and material required.

### What is ultrathin microlayering?

A technique using minimal layer thicknesses (0.1–0.2 mm) to selectively modify shape, texture and light dynamics, while maintaining a nearly full-contour framework.

### What is the advantage of ultrathin microlayering?

- Reduced risk of chipping
- Highly natural esthetics due to thin, optically effective layers
- Efficient workflow, enhancing esthetics with comparatively little effort

### Can I add contact points or make shape adjustments?

Yes, minor shape and surface adjustments can be made, and contact points can be added.

## Materials & Properties

**What is the CTE of VITA LUMEX® UNIQUE?**

$8.7 \times 10^{-6}\ K^{-1}$ (25 – 400 °C)

**Are all pastes formulated in the same way?**

Although all pastes are based on the same basic components, they are specifically formulated to provide different consistencies and handling characteristics:

- Color Effect pastes: creamy and flowable – ideal for fine characterizations and translucent effects
- Texture pastes: stable and sculptable – suitable for targeted shaping and surface texturing
- Glaze pastes (GLAZE / FLUO-GLAZE / POWER FLUO-GLAZE): creamy and easy to apply, but at the same time sufficiently stable so that even incorporated textures are retained after firing

Tutorial Tips & Tricks

Tutorial Tips & Tricks

Tutorial Tips & Tricks

**Can the different materials be mixed with each other?**

Yes, the materials can be mixed with each other. They should be mixed thoroughly and without trapping any air to avoid bubbles during firing. A firing test is recommended.

**How color-stable are the materials?**

Very stable. Even after up to four firings, no changes in color were observed.

**Is the shrinkage comparable to conventional ceramic?**

No, it is significantly lower.

## Fluorescence & Glaze

**Do the pastes have fluorescent properties?**

- EFFECT GINGIVA and TEXTURE GINGIVA pastes, TEXTURE misty-rose and TEXTURE clear, as well as GLAZE PASTE, are non-fluorescent
- All other masses are fluorescent

**Why is fluorescence important in dental restorations?**

Fluorescence helps dental restorations achieve a natural, lifelike appearance under different lighting conditions. It enhances the natural light dynamics of teeth and helps prevent a grayish or artificial appearance, particularly in monolithic restorations.

**What is the difference between FLUO-GLAZE and POWER FLUO-GLAZE?**

- **FLUO-GLAZE**: Creates a balanced fluorescence effect that becomes visible under UV light (e.g. , 365 nm, conventional black light).
- **POWER FLUO-GLAZE**: Produces a more intense fluorescence that is clearly visible under both 365 nm and 395 nm UV light (UV LED), reflecting the fluorescence behavior of natural teeth under everyday lighting conditions.

**How does the combination of different wavelengths (365 nm / 395 nm) in the POWER FLUO-GLAZE PASTE affect perception of fluorescence?**

- 365 nm is a UV-A wavelength that elicits strong fluorescence.
  → differences in intensity and effect are clearly visible.
- 395 nm is also within the UV-A range, but close to the visible light spectrum.
  The fluorescence of natural teeth is somewhat weaker at this wavelength. In combination, 365 nm and 395 nm provide a reliable, natural-looking fluorescence effect, ranging from maximum visibility to a realistic appearance under different everyday lighting conditions.

## Texture & Gingiva

**What are TEXTURE and TEXTURE GINGIVA used for?**

To create depth, vitality and natural surface texture with layer thicknesses of 0.1–0.2 mm.

Tutorial Tips & Tricks

**How do I use TEXTURE GINGIVA?**

For gingival characterization:

- Opaque pink shades
- Non-fluorescent
- Suitable for creating texture and base color
- Can be mixed with GLAZE PASTE, TEXTURE PASTE and Color Effect Paste.

**What layer thickness should be considered?**

- Recommended: max. 0.2 mm
- For layer thicknesses of approx. 0.4 mm or more, use VITA LUMEX AC (see the mixed technique in the 10873 VITA LUMEX UNIQUE Instruction for use)

Tutorial Tips & Tricks

## Processing & Handling

### Which liquid can be used?

Only VITA LUMEX UNIQUE LIQUID – no third-party products.

### Can I use paste fluid from VITA AKZENT® Plus?

No. For optimal results, only the recommended VITA LUMEX UNIQUE LIQUID should be used. Other liquids may have different burnout characteristics, which can lead to a grayish appearance or undesirable color deviations.

### What should be done if the materials dry out?

- In the container → mix again with VITA LUMEX UNIQUE LIQUID
- On the mixing plate → Discard (risk of contamination)

### Which instruments are recommended?

Experience has shown that synthetic brushes are generally more suitable for Liquid Ceramic than natural-hair brushes due to their greater stability. Use only metal-free spatulas.

### How can the viscosity of overly diluted VITA LUMEX® UNIQUE pastes be increased?

By removing fluid (e.g., with a paper towel).

## Burning & Parameters

### Is vacuum firing required?

Vacuum firing is recommended because it produces better results.

### How many times can the materials be fired?

Up to four firings without any color change.

### What should be considered for large restorations?

- Reduce the heating rate – extend the holding time – adjust the temperature if necessary.
- For details, refer to the 10873 VITA LUMEX UNIQUE Instructions for Use or the 10902D VITA LUMEX UNIQUE firing parameters for various ceramic furnaces.

### Is slow cooling necessary?

Yes, especially for large restorations and ideally for all firings.

## Firing Temperature & Gloss

**What happens if the final temperature is too high?**

- Increased surface gloss
- Reduced edge stability

**What happens if the temperature is too low?**

- Insufficient gloss

**What causes the surface to appear too matte after firing?**

Common causes include:

- Firing temperature too low
- Holding time too short
- Uneven or insufficient glaze application
- Surface too rough prior to firing
- Contamination on the restoration

## Errors & Troubleshooting

**Is a longer predrying time required for thicker layers?**

Yes, to prevent cracking and bubble formation and to ensure the desired level of gloss.

**What should I do if bubbles appear?**

- Extend predrying time
- Ensure the correct lift position during predrying.
- Check the layer thickness and reduce it if necessary
- Avoid introducing air bubbles during mixing.

## Combination & Workflow

**Can VITA LUMEX® UNIQUE be combined with VITA LUMEX® AC?**

Yes:

- For final characterization
- For intermediate characterization
- The materials can also be mixed (observe the predrying requirements).

**Can I combine it with other veneering ceramics?**
No, it is only approved for use in combination with VITA LUMEX AC.

**Is a wash firing recommended for the mixed technique?**
A wash firing can improve bonding to zirconia. It is not required on lithium disilicate or VITABLOCS frameworks.

**When should I use VITA LUMEX® UNIQUE and when should I use VITA LUMEX® AC?**
VITA LUMEX AC is used for ceramic layering, while VITA LUMEX UNIQUE is used for the esthetic enhancement of monolithic restorations through microlayering and characterization.

## Limitations

**Can VITA LUMEX® UNIQUE be used on metal-ceramic restorations?**
No (exception: on titanium in combination with VITA LUMEX AC).

**Can it be used on VITA SUPRINITY PC?**
No – use VITA AKZENT Plus instead.



VITA Zahnfabrik H. Rauter GmbH & Co. KG

Spitalgasse 3
79713 Bad Säckingen
Germany

Phone: +49 7761 562-0
Hotline: +49 7761 562-222

info@vita-zahnfabrik.com
www.vita-zahnfabrik.com

Follow us on Social Media!

10904E_1126_V01