

Competitor Analysis

Table 1: Shows devices with similar purpose and costs, reviews, and important features.

	Hot Glue Gun Finger Caps	Thimbles	Hot Glue Gun Helper Kit
Company	Mod Podge Hot Glue Gun Finger Cap	Dritz Thermal Thimbles	Plaid Hot Glue Gun Helper Kit
Cost	-Amazon: \$3.70 -Hobby lobby: \$4.90	-Amazon: \$6.97 -123Stitch.com: \$7.21	-Amazon: \$18.91 -Walmart: \$18.02
Reviews	-4.1/5 stars (amazon.com) -comfortable, soft, fit snug -easy to clean, glue falls off once it dries -too small -thick enough to protect, thin enough for full control -doesn't protect the rest of the hand	-4.5/5 stars (amazon.com) -protected from heat very well, but fingers still feel warm -great for working with small objects (does not interfere) -too big and too thin -soft and durable	-4.7/5 stars (amazon.com) -easy clean up (glue comes off mat easily) -allows for more precision -cheaply made
Important Features	-easy to use -easy to clean with soap and water -heat resistant up to 600 degrees -silicone	-normally used when ironing -textured surface helps with gripping materials -soft and flexible -100% silicone -Size: 1.01 inches; 0.89 inch; 0.76 inch	-7 piece kit includes mat, finger caps, tweezers, a paddle, press wand -made out of silicone

	Glue Gun Stand	Low temperature glue gun	High temperature glue gun with insulated nozzle
Company	Surebonder 6500N Glue Gun Stand with Non-Stick Glue Pad	Ad Tech Low Temp Glue Gun	Surebonder CL-800F 60-Watt Cordless High Temperature Glue Gun
Cost	-Amazon: \$5.60 -surebonder.com: \$2.49	-gluegun.com: \$6.50 -Joann Fabrics: \$2.99	-Amazon: \$16.89 -surebonder.com: \$23.99
Reviews	-4.0/5 stars (amazon.com) -too light, falls over with the weight of the glue gun -hot glue easily peels off of silicone pad	-4.0/5 stars (amazon.com) -still gets hot, but doesn't burn you as easily -hot glue dries and solidifies quickly so you have to work fast	-4.0/5 stars (amazon.com) -glue remains hot for 3-4 min -hot glue bonds strongly -heats up fast -glue gun leaks out significant amounts of hot glue
Important Features	-can be used with any size glue gun -adds safety and convenience to crafts -non-stick drip pad (made out of silicone)	-10 watts -low temperature for increased safety	-uses high temperature for better bonding to metal, wood, ceramics, leather, porous and non-porous materials -operates at 380 F -60-Watt -insulated nozzle -includes stand -works for 4 or 10 inch glue sticks with 7/16 inch diameter

A limited number of products on the market have a similar purpose to the device being created. One product, a silicone finger cap, allows the user to work quickly with hot glue. However, there is still a risk associated with hot glue coming in contact with other parts of the hand. In addition, finger sizes vary from person to person, making the silicone finger an unreliable way to protect from hot glue burns. Finger thimbles serve a similar purpose of protecting the fingers from intense heat. However, a similar problem arises, where finger sizes vary from person to person. In addition, the finger thimble is not specifically designed for hot glue, but instead designed for ironing. The hot glue gun helper kit is another product on the market that aims to make gluing with hot glue a safer process. The main items the kit includes are silicone finger caps and a silicone mat. Although both of these tools help in safer hot glue gun use and in turn prevent burns, they are external items that do not fit on the glue gun itself. Another product is the hot glue gun stand by Surebonder. The hot glue gun stand aims to add safety and convenience to crafts with hot glue. However, many users have reported that the stand does not stay upright, defeating the purpose of the stand. A low temperature glue gun is another product on the market that aims to reduce hot glue gun incidents. The low temperature means that burns are less frequent. However, because of the low temperature, the hot glue dries quickly and forces clients to work with haste. Finally, a high temperature glue gun with an insulated nozzle provides a safer way to use hot glue that works to its full potential. Although, the product is faulty, as a significant number of clients complained that the glue gun leaked excess amounts of hot glue, possibly due to a defective nozzle. Many of the products aimed at developing a safer way to use hot glue used silicone, which proved to be an effective way to protect from heat and burns.