

## Formulating with VenaSilk and GuarSilk

Both VenaSilk and GuarSilk must be hydrated prior to using in formulations.

GuarSilk should be hydrated in room temperature water before using it in a formulation. After weighing out the water for the water phase, use a portion of it to hydrate the GuarSilk at room temp for 15 minutes or so while mixing well with a stick blender or other high shear mixer. GuarSilk will thicken gradually as it hydrates. Continue to stir/mix as GuarSilk thickens. Once it is well hydrated, it can be added back to the water phase and heated as usual.

When making shampoo/body wash, I find it helpful to add all the water-soluble ingredients (besides the surfactants) to the hydrated GuarSilk and mix well. Then add the surfactants to the hydrated GuarSilk and other water-solubles with minimal stirring to prevent excess foam.

Recommended use level: 0.1-0.5% for hair care and 2-1.0% for skin care. Physical Form: Off-white Powder INCI Name: Guar Hydroxypropyltrimonium Chloride.

VenaSilk can be hydrated in very hot water (180-185F) before using it in a formulation. It can be added to a small portion of the water from the water phase (mix well) and allowed to hydrate for 5-10 minutes, then it can be added to the rest of the water phase--proceed as usual.

Since VenaSilk can be somewhat difficult to disperse directly into water, an easier option for incorporating VenaSilk into formulations is to first disperse the VenaSilk into glycerin (if that's part of the formulation) or into surfactant if making shampoo or body wash. Once the VenaSilk is "wet", add the remainder of the water phase ingredients and heat as usual.

INCI Name: Hydrolyzed Oat Flour. Physical Form: Off-white Powder. Recommended usage: 0.2-0.5% for hair care and 1%-5% for skin care.

