

# CastRite™ CASTING STONE

## UNSAFE FOR ENCLOSING BODY PARTS, MAY CAUSE BURNS

**DESCRIPTION:** CastRite is a gypsum-based plaster of Paris that has been especially heat treated to create very hard casts that unlike generic plaster of Paris, holds great detail, is not chalky and resists chipping and cracking. Similar formulas are used in making lamp bases and durable castings and are therefore an excellent choice for life casting. Like other plasters and gypsum products CastRite cannot be applied directly to the skin as is the chemical reaction during setting creates heat that is hot enough to cause burns. Use CastRite only to cast into MoldGel, ArtMolds' plaster bandages or silicone lifecasting molds. CastRite is used only in the making of casts after the mold has been created.

**FEATURES:**

- High definition
- Does not chalk
- Durable – resists chipping
- Holds finishes well
- Natural bright white finish
- Minimum air bubbles at proper mix ratios

**PREPPING THE MOLD FOR CASTING.** Clean out your mold and pat dry with paper towels. If the MoldGel is separating from the bandage cast, use a dollop of Moldez™ as an adhesive (Larger separations call for a spring-loaded clothes pin.) Then using the tips of your fingers, apply a finger full of Moldez to the surface of the mold. Move your fingertips in a slow circular motion so that you can feel for imperfections. Fill any pins hole with the Moldez as you go. Add additional Moldez so that you coat the entire mold twice. You may use Crisco® to liberally coat the edges of the mold to extend the amount of Moldez.

**MIXING RATIOS:** The mixing ratios are dependent on the type of casting you are doing. In a poured casting such as a hand casting your mixture should be thinner. In a fast casting a torso cast where you want to layer cast, that is cast in layers that can be applied to the sides of your mold, CastRite should be more of the consistency of soft peanut butter. The manufacture recommends a ratio of 8 parts CastRite to 7 parts water (tap water is fine). The warmer the water the quicker the set time. The precise mixing ratio for a front torso mold is 64 ounces of CastRite and 56 ounces of water. Thicker mixtures set faster. Thinner mixtures set more slowly.

**Island Mix Method:** Experienced casters used the “Island Method” of mixing. You can too. This method simply allows you to “eye ball” the mix ratio rather than measure precisely. Pour several inches of water into your mixing container. Now start to spread your CastRite on top of the water. Watch it settle in. Continue to spread the CastRite into the water (spreading meaning not pouring in one spot). When the water becomes saturated a small island of CastRite will form on the surface and have a difficult time sinking in. Once you achieve that shake the container so all the CastRite is submerged. Wait 5 minutes without disturbing the water to allow air to dissipate. Now using your hand reach in and mix the CastRite with the water by squeezing the lumps between your fingers until the mixture is smooth. The mixture should now have the consistency of thin yogurt – very pour able. If you need to use the mixture for application to the sides of a mold you can allow it to thicken a bit by waiting before you apply. You have about 5-8 minutes before it begins to set. You may also stir your mixture using a drill with a mixer attached such as a JiffyMixer® or an ARCO® blade. The longer you mix the harder the resulting cast will be.

**SAFETY:** When mixed with water, this material hardens and then slowly becomes hot. DO NOT attempt to make a cast enclosing a body part. Failure to follow these instructions may cause severe burns. As with all fine powders, when CastRite is mixed, dust may cause irritation to the eyes, nose, throat, or upper respiratory system. If eye contact occurs, flush particles from eyes with water. For safety, while mixing wear a NIOSH-approved dust mask. Wear safety glasses or goggles for eye protection. Both available are at the hardware store. Needless to say, CastRite is for art casting and not for human consumption – or for that matter anything living. We think you know this, too, but print it here as a reminder . . .

**PLEASE, KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.**

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