

Mold Making . . .

Silicone Block Molds,

Step-by-Step Instructions

For many, mold making can seem a bit intimidating. This 'How-to' article will demonstrate just how easy it is to create molds that reproduce anything . . . and it is fun, too!

There are three basic molds, a blanket mold, a block mold and a compound mold. A block mold is the simplest form of mold. It is a one-part poured mold. It can be used to reproduce figurines, small statues and uncomplicated models. In our demonstration we have chosen to reproduce a baby's hand that we have created using the ArtMolds KidzEZ Casting Kit. With such a mold you can make numerous copies of your model using CastRite or KastEZ Resin.

For this project you'll need about 30-minutes of preparation, then several hours for the mold to cure before you demold. The materials and tools required are minimal. So let's get started.



ArtMolds' Danielle Rinaldi demonstrates the basic mold making method. She is holding copies created with KastEZ Resin that she made from her block mold created with MoldRite25.



Step 1

Assemble your materials. You will need a MoldRite25 kit (1-pint). You will need a box cutter or Exacto knife, a hot glue gun, several 16-oz plastic cups, a gram scale, and of course your model. In this demonstration it is our baby's hand cast.



Step 2

Next using your knife, the top portion of the cup is removed. This allows the mold maker easier access to the inside of the cup so that the model can be placed on the bottom.



Step 3

Hot glue is applied to the bottom of the model. The model is then inserted into the cup and glued to its bottom. This prevents the model from moving when the mold material is poured into the cup.



Step 4

The hand is centered and placed on the bottom of the cup. You should have at least one inch of space all around your model to give it adequate support once demolded.



Step 5

MoldRite is then measured. Since MoldRite is a 10:1 mix ratio we measure out 10 parts of Part A using our gram scale. You'll need enough to cover the highest part of your model by at least 1-inch.



Step 6

Now that we measured out about 285 grams of Part A we will pour 28.5 grams of Part B (10-percent) in a separate clean cup. When apportioned, both components are combined in a third cup.



Step 8

Mix the two components thoroughly scraping the sides and the bottom. You know you have mixed long enough when the material is an even shade of blue throughout – without any marbleizing. Mixing takes about 1-minute.



Step 9

If you don't use a vacuum chamber to de-air, then pour a high narrow stream of MoldRite, staying in one position. That method minimizes air bubbles. Make certain you cover the top of the model with at least 1-inch of MoldRite.



Step 10

We test for firmness with a craft stick. MoldRite will set in about 2-hours at which time you can demold. Simply slit the side of the cup to slide out the finished mold.



Step 12

With a sharp knife cut a saw-tooth pattern in one side of the mold to remove the model.



Step 13

Spread the halves of the mold and work out the model slowly. Note the saw-tooth cut.



Step 14

Your mold is now ready to be cast. Just mix the casting material and pour into your mold, let set and demold.

That is all there is to making a block mold. Before you cast, wrap a rubber band around your mold to keep it closed. That way your casting material will not leak out of the side slice you made in the mold to remove the model. The materials described here are available at better art stores everywhere. For the dealer nearest you call toll free to: 1-866 ARTMOLDS (278-6653) or you can also find the information on the worldwide web at www.artmolds.biz.