



Mold-Craft Pre-Vulcanized Latex

Sculpture Supply Canada

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Mold-Craft is available in two forms:

FMF

- 🍏 60 - 65% total solids
- 🍏 0.7% ammonia and others added to provide extended shelf life
- 🍏 Compounded and pre-vulcanized
- 🍏 Consistency of milk
- 🍏 FMF Mold-Craft applications include: small rubber molds, masks, rubber gloves, dipping and brush-on, crafting, special FX, animation, etc.

FMB

- 🍏 Identical to that of FMF but with a thickener added (Thickso agent)
- 🍏 Thickso is a product similar in colour and consistency to molasses. Approximately 6 ounces of Thickso are added and mixed into a 20 Ltr pail.
- 🍏 FMB Mold-Craft applications include: Large rubber molds eg. statues, garden statuary, fountains, ornamental work, and industrial projects.

Ideally, FMF and FMB compounds are used in combination. FMF is applied as a first coat since its fine consistency allows for reproduction of the finest detail. This is followed by 5 to 6 additional coats of FMF (based on a 7" model). Then the FMB is applied on the final two coats.

The thicker coats provide additional strength extending mold production life. FMF can also be used on its own if desired. The FMB is approximately 12 -15 % thicker (cream consistency) than the FMF. FMF and FMB can both be made thicker by adding Thickso agent and agitating thoroughly.

THICKSO (Latex Rubber Thickener)

- 🍏 Use sparingly. Mix well. A little goes a long way.
- 🍏 Mixing Ratios One Litre of Latex Rubber : 2 to 3oz. of THICKSO
 Five Gallon Latex Rubber : 8 to 10oz. of THICKSO

(When thickening a 5 Gallon pail of Latex Rubber, use a hand drill with mixer attachment.)

Caution: *Do not make too thick as Mold-Craft can lose some of its stretching qualities. **Never add water** as this will destroy your mold or object. **Always prevent from freezing.***

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PRODUCT OVERVIEW

Mold Craft is a 100% natural liquid latex molding rubber used to duplicate patterns, sculpture and architectural ornamentation. Latex rubber can be used on such surfaces as clay, plaster, wood, metal, plastic, glass, ceramics and plasticene clays. Latex molds are reusable, harmless to most surfaces, flexible, stretchable and thereby can be peeled up and over sharply undercut areas. Mold Craft latex rubber can be used to cast plaster, polyester and urethane casting resins, epoxy resins, clays, concretes, waxes, soap and paper products.

PREPARING YOUR MODEL

Although Mold Craft is harmless to most surfaces, always test an inconspicuous area first prior to applying latex rubber over the entire surface. Porous surfaces such as wood, plaster and clay should be coated with paste wax or suitable sealant, brass or copper should be sealed with shellac or a clear acrylic spray. **Do not use petroleum based mold release agents. Petroleum release agents will react with the Latex mold and destroy it.**

APPLICATION

A few minutes prior to using Mold Craft remove the lid and allow the accumulated ammonia to dissipate. Brush a thin layer of Latex rubber onto the original model. Allow rubber to air-dry, drying between coats may take 20 minutes. Important: the first two coats of Latex rubber must be applied as thin as possible to ensure that even the finest of details will be exactly duplicated. Remove all thick pockets of Latex which if left will seal over and dry out.

Once the surface has dried into a tacky state (translucent appearance) apply another thicker coat. The white colour of the Latex will begin to disappear and an amber colour will appear. Subsequent coats are applied in the same manner until a build-up of approximately 10 to 20 coats is achieved. Larger models require additional coats to achieve sufficient strengths. Do not allow thorough drying of the Latex between coats as delamination of the rubber may occur. When using a brush, first soak brush in a soapy water solution and leave immersed when not in use. This will prolong the life of the brush and make it easier to clean. Shrinkage is due to the water in the Latex and the rate at which it is evaporated. Normally, a 3% shrinkage may be expected. However, should you dilute the Latex with water or attempt to accelerate the drying process with excessive heat, the shrinkage will consequently be excessive and result in distortion and cracking of the rubber mold.

Latex rubber may be cleaned-up with cold soapy water only. If warm water is used this will cause the rubber to set-up immediately.

To produce a stronger mold, cheese cloth or medical gauze can be imbedded in the mold by pressing pre-cut strips into the next layer while rubber is still tacky.

USING THE LATEX MOLD

When casting candle and/or microcrystalline waxes into the Latex, no release agent is required. Prior to casting plasters and concrete into the Latex rubber mold, the rubber should be coated with either a soap or (Isopropyl Alcohol + Caster Oil) solution respectively to prevent sticking. When casting polyester resins into the Latex apply a silicone based release agent and brush the release evenly over the entire casting surface. Fresh Latex rubber will bond to itself. Upon demolding the rubber sprinkle baby powder/talc on the leading edge as the Latex is being peeled away from the original model. The mold should be washed after each casting to remove any debris particles. After every use clean the inside of the mold, making sure it is free of any moisture. Molds should be stored in a plastic bag on a level surface in a dry, cool environment and may be sprinkled with baby powder or talc on the inside. The physical life of the mold depends on how you use it (materials cast, frequency, etc.). Multi-part molds should be stored assembled. Do not stack molds, expose them to moisture or UV light.

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