

Making a Quicksil silicone mould

Materials Needed:

- 1:1 Quicksil silicone (Part A and Part B)
 - Mould box, container or modelling clay
 - Original object to be moulded
 - Release agent (optional, but recommended) e.g. J Wax, Rocket Release
 - Mixing cups
 - Stir sticks
 - Protective gloves
 - Drop cloth or newspaper (to protect your work surface)
 - Tissues
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1. Prepare Your Work Area

- Cover your work surface with a drop cloth or newspaper to protect it from spills.
- Ensure your work area is well-ventilated.

2. Prepare the Original Object

- Clean the original object thoroughly to remove any dust or debris.
- If the object is porous, apply a release agent to prevent the silicone from sticking.

3. Set Up the Mould Box

- Select or create a container (with modelling clay) that will hold the silicone and the original object. The container should be slightly larger than the object.
- Position the original object in the container, ensuring it is stable and will not move during the pouring process and the silicone will not leak out of the mould box.

4. Measure the Silicone

- Put on protective gloves.
- Measure equal parts in mls of Part A and Part B of Quicksil. use measuring cups
- For example, if you need 100ml of silicone, measure 50ml of Part A and 50ml of Part B.

5. Mix the Silicone

- Pour Part A and Part B into a mixing cup.
- Stir the mixture thoroughly with a mixing stick, scraping the sides and bottom of the cup into a 2nd mixing cup to ensure a complete mix. Mix for 2-3 minutes until the colour is consistent with no streaks.

6. Pour the Silicone

- Slowly pour the mixed silicone into the mould box, starting from one corner and allowing it to flow around the object. This helps to minimize air bubbles.

7. Let the Silicone Cure

- Allow Quicksil silicone to cure for at least ½ hour.
- Do not disturb the mould during the curing process.

8. Demould the Original Object

- Once the silicone has fully cured, carefully remove the mould from the mould box.
- Gently remove the original object from the silicone mould. If necessary, you can cut the mold carefully to release the object.

9. Clean the Mould

- Clean the mould of any debris i.e. clay or silicone bits before it is ready to use.

Tips:

- Work quickly once the silicone is mixed, as it begins to cure immediately.
- Make sure to read and follow the manufacturer's instructions for your specific silicone product, as curing times and mixing ratios may vary slightly.
- Use a release agent, especially if the original object has intricate details or is made of a material that silicone tends to stick to.
- Test a small project first to ensure you are familiar with the handling of the product and the result before embarking on larger projects

Pouring epoxy resin into Quicksil silicone mould

Materials Needed:

- Silicone mould
 - Casting Epoxy resin (Resin and Hardener)
 - Mixing cups
 - Mixing sticks
 - Protective gloves and safety glasses
 - Drop cloth or newspaper (to protect your work surface)
 - Release agent (if necessary)
 - Heat gun or torch (to remove air bubbles)
 - Pigments, mica powders, or inclusions (optional)
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1. Prepare Your Work Area

- Cover your work surface with a drop cloth or newspaper to protect it from spills.
- Ensure your work area is well-ventilated.

2. Prepare the Silicone Mould

- Clean the silicone mould to remove any dust or debris.
- If the mould has intricate details or you are using a mold for the first time, consider applying a mold release agent to ensure easy demolding.

3. Measure the Epoxy Resin

- Put on protective gloves and safety glasses
- Use measuring cups, measure 2 parts of RESIN and 1 part of HARDENER by volume.
- For example, if you need 60g of resin, measure 40g of resin and 20g of hardener.

4. Mix the Epoxy Resin

- Pour resin and hardener into a mixing cup.
- Stir the mixture thoroughly with a mixing stick and tip into a 2nd mixing cup, scraping the sides and bottom of the cup to ensure a complete mix
- Stir for 5-7 mins until the resin is well mixed and clear.

5. Add Pigments or Inclusions (Optional)

- If you want to add pigments, mica powders or inclusions (e.g., glitter, dried flowers), mix them into the epoxy resin after it is fully combined. Stir thoroughly to evenly distribute the additives.

6. Pour the Epoxy Resin

- Slowly pour the mixed epoxy resin into the silicone mould. Start pouring from one corner to help minimize air bubbles.
- Fill the mold carefully to avoid overfilling and to ensure the resin reaches all parts of the mold.

7. Remove Air Bubbles

- Use a heat gun or torch to gently pass over the surface of the poured resin to remove any air bubbles. Be careful not to overheat or burn the resin.

8. Allow the Resin to Cure

- Allow the epoxy resin to cure for at least 24 hours @25°C. Curing time can vary depending on the ambient conditions.
- Keep the mold in a dust-free area and do not disturb it during the curing process.

9. Demould the Resin Casting

- Once the epoxy resin has fully cured, carefully remove the casting from the silicone mould. Flex the mold gently to release the casting.
- If the resin is difficult to remove, you can gently push or twist the mould to help release the casting.

10. Finish the Casting (Optional)

- Inspect the casting for any imperfections or sharp edges. You can sand or polish the resin to achieve a smooth finish if needed.
- If desired, you can apply a clear coat or additional resin layer to enhance the appearance and durability of the casting.

Tips:

- Work in a clean, dust-free environment to avoid contaminants in your resin.
- Measure and mix the resin accurately to ensure proper curing and avoid sticky or uncured spots.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions closely for the best results, as different epoxy resins can have varying properties and requirements.
- Test a small project first to ensure you are familiar with the handling of the product and the result before embarking on larger projects