

MOULD MAKING AND CASTING -



Mould making materials, flexible or solid, are many and varied. Whether a simple one-part product (such as latex) or the more common two-part (silicones/polyurethane), they all have their advantages and disadvantages, relevant in their own application.

Choice of mould making material may be limited to your choice of casting substance, availability of mould material and the shape of your master. You will also need to consider how many casts you would like to achieve from your mould.

When choosing a product for mould making you need to take several things into consideration.

- Master (Model) Composition - What is your master (model) made from?
 - o There are a few select materials which are not compatible with silicones/polyurethane. These materials must be sealed / coated before taking a mould.
- Master (Model) Size - How big is your master (model)?
 - o The size of your master can determine the type of mould you choose to make. A "block" mould for small to medium masters (models) is quite economical, however, a larger master (model) may warrant a "mother" or "slick" mould, using less silicone than a block mould. (See Mould Types for more information)
- What casting substance will you be using in the mould?
 - o Although similar, each mould making material has its own specific properties. As such, some are better suited for particular casting substances, giving increased mould life and improved casting results.