

Technical Bulletin | **Magikmold® L-600 Latex Rubber**

DESCRIPTION

Magikmold® L-600 Latex Rubber is a natural, one-part liquid that can be used to make tough, flexible molds. Molds are made by brushing multiple layers of latex onto an original model – these layers air-dry to form a thin, blanket mold. Once the mold is completely dry, a supportive mold shell can be constructed – common mold shell materials include plaster and resin.

Latex molds are most often used for casting concrete and plaster. Some resins can be cast in latex molds with a suitable release agent; however, the yield may be limited.

MODEL PREPARATION, APPLYING & DRYING

Ensure that the original model is free of grease, oil and debris (e.g., dirt). Many model materials do not need to be sealed prior to applying liquid latex; however, if they contain moisture, sulfur, or petroleum oil, they should be properly sealed before the mold making process. Always perform a small test prior to completing an entire mold; apply a small amount of latex to a similar model material to ensure good release. If the latex sticks after drying or becomes dark, a sealer and/or release agent may be necessary.

Firmly mount the model to a baseboard. Brush a very thin layer of latex on to the model; do not allow the latex to pool. Allow this coat to air dry or dry in an oven (140°F for 20 minutes – 1 hour depending on the size). Drying time depends greatly on humidity, temperature, and thickness of the layer. As soon as the first layer is dry, apply the next one. After application of every layer, allow it to dry before applying the next. Molds typically require 15-20 layers to reach a mold thickness of ¼" to ½".

THICKENING & REINFORCEMENT OF LATEX

L-600 Latex can be thickened with crumb rubber, ground cork or fumed silica to thicken edges of the mold or to fill in undercuts. Thickeners must be completely wet out with latex and applied to the outside surface of the mold. Thickened latex must be allowed to dry completely as wet spots trapped in the latex can cause delamination of the mold.

Latex can be reinforced with materials such as burlap, polyester, and muslin. Place the fabric into a coat of wet latex and allow it to dry completely before applying more latex. Generally, it is best to only use reinforcement at the edges of mold because it will reduce the flexibility of the latex.

CASTING IN LATEX MOLDS

To cast plaster, it is often recommended to first wet the mold with a 1% solution of detergent in water to help aid bubble release. When casting concrete, release agent may be required depending on the concrete mix. Avoid exposing molds to solvents, oils and grease.

SHELF LIFE & STORAGE

Use liquid latex within three months from date of shipment. Store latex in unopened containers at room temperature (60°F – 90°F). Do not store in unlined, metal containers. **Exposure to temperatures <45°F and >80°F may damage latex, causing irreversible coagulation. DO NOT ALLOW TO FREEZE.**

Ensure that finished molds are completely dry before storing; storing the mold with the original model in them can help to retain the shape of the mold. Store finished molds away from UV light and excessive heat.

CLEAN UP

Clean up wet and dry latex with soap and water.

SAFETY

Before use, read product labels and Safety Data Sheets. Use with adequate ventilation. Avoid contact with the eyes, skin and clothing. Wash thoroughly after handling. Do not eat, drink or smoke in the work area. Keep container closed when not in use.

DISCLAIMER

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