
Equipment required:

- Solid conditioner-MB base
- Suitable vessel to heat the product in
- Microwave or a suitable heating device such as a double boiler
- Stirrer to mix the product on melting
- Additives if required
- Mould or suitable container to pour the product into once molten

Prepare:

Remove the solid conditioner-MB base from the packaging and cut the product into smaller pieces to aid melting. Add the prepared product to a suitable vessel which is stable on heating.

Melt:

Melt the product in a microwave or a suitable heating device ensuring that the base melts evenly.

Stirring the product regularly helps to do this. The product should start melting above 60 °C.

Create:

Once the base is molten, additives such as fragrance, colour and conditioning agents can be added to customise the base. Simply add the chosen additives to the molten product and mix to ensure even distribution. As the base does not contain water, the additives used must be oil-soluble otherwise there may be solubility issues. It is recommended that the level of additives included is up to 5 % maximum. This level would include up to 2 % fragrance. Larger inclusion levels can be added but a trial and error approach is advised (see note). Due to the oily nature of the base, you may need to work with your chosen fragrance to determine a suitable level. Stability testing may be required using your chosen additives to ensure compatibility.

Pour:

Pour the molten product into a mould or suitable container between 75 – 80 °C and allow to set.

Remove:

Once the solid conditioner-MB base has set, remove the product from the mould or suitable container and package as required. Selection of packaging should be carefully considered due to the oily nature of the product. If the finished product is to be sliced, we recommend using a wire cutter.

Note:

The deposition of the solid conditioner-MB base may be improved by adding extra oil such as coconut oil. This will help to reduce the melting point of the base and in turn will lead to a softer product which will deposit more easily when in contact with hot water. Adding more emulsifier such as glyceryl oleate would also aid deposition onto the hair during use. The inclusion level would depend on the other additives used but a general recommendation would be to use between 5 - 10 % of oil, emulsifier or a mixture of both. It is important to monitor the hardness of the finished product when adding extra oil and emulsifier as these can soften the base. It is also advised to complete relevant stability studies of any finished products which include extra oil as the stability could be compromised for example, when using oils which are more susceptible to rancidity.