

Setting up for Success

self-care:

- Covered arms, legs, and toes!
- Waterproof gloves
- Dust mask (N95 or better)
- Apron
- Safety glasses/goggles

for the pour:

- Prepared model in containment field; silicone mold; etc.
- Calculated volume of desired mold
- Surfactant in spray bottle
 - (water:windex :: 1:1)
- Isopropyl alcohol in spray bottle
- Soft rubber mallet (optional)

staying clean:

- Towel (damp and disposable if possible)
- 3+ gallon bucket filled 75% with water

How To:

MIX POTTERY PLASTER

stuff for getting plastered:

- Digital scale (accurate in grams)
- 2 Containers, (each large enough to hold entire amount of dry plaster)
 - 1 "WET" for weighing water and ALL mixing
 - 1 "DRY" for weighing DRY PLASTER POWDER ONLY
- Water (room temperature) [100 parts]
- USG No.1 Pottery Plaster [70 parts]
- Scoop (for handling plaster powder)
- Timer (set for 2 minutes)
- Rubber spatula (or other appropriate mixer/scrapper.)
- Drill with mix attachment (recommended for larger batches)

the process:



1. Weigh necessary water into the designated WET container. ***This is where the mixing will happen, make sure it is away from the model to avoid any contamination.***
2. Weigh the plaster powder into the designated DRY container.
3. Using your measuring scoop, strew your plaster into the water. To 'strew': evenly distribute plaster over the water's surface with a side-to-side motion; let the powder dissolve into the water before adding more. This will take a minute or less.
4. Start a two-minute timer and allow the mixture to sit (*unmixed*) for the duration.
5. Restart two-minute timer and begin mixing.
 - If mixing by hand: stir constantly, scraping down sides and bottom for 1 minute 45 seconds.
 - If using drill with mixer attachment: mix at lowest speed in reverse setting, pausing to scrape down sides and bottom at least once about halfway through. Mix for 1 minute 45 seconds.
6. For the remaining 15 seconds, gently agitate (tap all the sides or shake/vibrate the container) the mixture to allow any bubbles rise to the surface and spritz with alcohol to pop them. ALSO:
7. Before pouring plaster mixture, spritz entire model/mold area with surfactant.
8. Pour mixture slowly and evenly into the deepest point of your containment field (preferably near an edge). Allow the surface level of plaster to even out on its own until full.
9. Gently tap sides with rubber mallet or side of fist and spray with alcohol to remove any surface bubbles.
10. Any extra plaster mixture can be emptied into a lined trash bin, an empty plaster bag, or allowed to solidify in the mixing container and disposed of later. ****NEVER POUR MIXED PLASTER OR PLASTER POWDER DOWN A DRAIN.****
11. Clean all wet containers and tools in prepared cleanup bucket and set aside to dry.
12. Allow the plaster to set up at room temperature for at least 45 minutes before demolding.

