

Hydrogel® N Mold Compound

Non-Toxic — Safe For Body Contact

DESCRIPTION: Hydrogel® N is a white powder that after mixing with water cures in about 5 minutes to a moist, rubbery material. Use Hydrogel N to make quick, single-use molds, especially when skin contact is required. Plaster, wax, and certain EasyFlo Plastics can be cast into Hydrogel N molds.

MODEL PREPARATION: Hydrogel N can be poured on most surfaces with minimal preparation, but a small test cure should be made prior to use to be sure that Hydrogel N releases cleanly and does not damage water sensitive surfaces. To seal questionable surfaces, apply a thin coat of petroleum jelly or Pol-Ease® 2300 Release Agent.

MIXING AND CURING: Weigh or measure proper amounts of Hydrogel N powder and room temperature water. The mix ratio is 3 parts water to 1 part Hydrogel N, by weight, or approximately 1 water to 1¼ Hydrogel N, by volume. Mix together rapidly to a creamy consistency, but avoid whipping in air. For best results, use a Turbo Mixer on a variable speed drill. Add powder or water as needed to thicken or thin the mix. Working time is about 5 minutes, but can be extended using Retarder Solution (see table below). Apply the creamy mix to the model surface with a flowing motion, pushing air ahead of the mix. Demold with care 2 to 3 minutes after the mix has gelled.

To make a large blanket mold, make and apply a series of mixes within 5 minutes of one another. Hydrogel N bonds to itself if the previous mix is not completely gelled. To help a new mix bond to

Features

- Non-toxic -- Safe for body casts
- Easy to use -- Just add water and mix
- Good reproduction of fine detail
- Early strength for fast demold
- Variable working time
- Low cost

already gelled Hydrogel N, wipe the gelled material with a saturated solution of water and baking soda (sodium bicarbonate). Add food color to the bonding solution so that you know where it has been applied. Continue layering Hydrogel N as needed to make a ~3/8-inch-thick blanket mold. In the final layer of wet Hydrogel N, press “teased” cotton (cotton rolls, available at any pharmacy) evenly over the entire mold surface and allow to gel. Remove excess cotton by pulling gently, leaving a thin layer of exposed fibers. As soon as Hydrogel N is firm, mix and apply a plaster mold shell using bandages, cheesecloth, or hemp embedded in the plaster. The exposed cotton fibers in the mold will bond to the plaster shell helping to keep the mold attached. When the plaster shell is set, remove the Hydrogel N mold/plaster shell. For best dimensional stability, make a positive casting immediately.

USING THE MOLD: Plaster or waxes below 212°F may be poured in Hydrogel N molds. For best results, use the mold when it is as fresh as possible since Hydrogel N molds shrink as they dry. Molds can be kept useable in plastic bags or sealed containers for up to a few days. Molds should then be discarded

SAFETY: Before use, read product label and Material Safety Data Sheet. Follow safety precautions and directions. Handle Hydrogel N carefully to avoid dust generation. Wear a dust mask. Avoid eye contact. Hydrogel N is not for human consumption or use against mucous membranes. Keep skin contact as brief as possible. Prior to placing Hydrogel N on hair, slick down hair with petroleum jelly or cholesterol hair conditioning cream.

STORAGE LIFE: At least six months in unopened containers stored at room temperature (60-90°F).

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Optional Liquid Retarder	
<u>% Retarder in Water</u>	<u>Approx. Working Time</u>
0	5 min
3	7 min
6	8 min
9	10 min

Packaging	
Product	Volume
Hydrogel® N	1 qt
	1 gal
	5 gal
Retarder Solution	1 qt