

Casting Perfect Casts

Making the perfect casts has always been a bit of a challenge, getting rid of those dreaded air bubbles can be one of the most annoying things in life, we spend ages making our mix, carefully pouring into our moulds only to find that it is laden with horrible bubbles, well now we will show you how to get amazing results with the simplest of tricks.

Casting the Perfect Casts



Option 1

Mix 5ml of a really good washing up liquid with 500ml of water, fill a spray bottle, let it settle for a while and spray your moulds lightly, then cast as normal – Amazing Results



Option 2

Mix 5ml of a really good washing up liquid with 100ml of water, fill a spray bottle, let it settle for a while and spray your moulds lightly, then cast as normal – Amazing Results



Option 3

Lightly brush a cheap rinse aid on the mould directly, do not dilute, then cast as normal, however this will slow your cast setting down so expect a few hours before extracting, brilliant results every time.







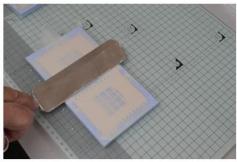
So when you have decided which of the 3 options you want to try, either spray your moulds or brush them, maybe you want to try all three methods and see which you prefer. What is certain you will get fantastic results.

You also want to use a good strong casting powder, for larger moulds you can use something like <u>Herculite</u> II or <u>Hydrastone</u> or of course <u>Tuffcast</u>, for smaller and finer moulds you can still use the above but you may want to use a mix slightly thicker as the less water the stronger the casting

What you will notice is unlike casting in a dry mould the spray or brushed on liquid will act by breaking the surface tension of the water and you will see the casting mix flows into all the little gaps

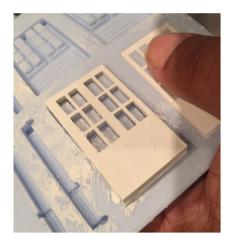


Now you have poured in the casting mix, you can just tap or thump on the table or platform and this will help the wet mix flow into any gaps which ensures you do not have to overfill the moulds and there is less waste when levelling off



After a few minutes water will form on the surface and the mix will have settled into the mould, so when you ready you can scrape off the excess whilst at the same time forcing the mix hard into the mould. You may want to put your mould on some newspaper or kitchen roll so any mess is kept on the paper, it also stops the mould suctioning to a glass surface if you use one.





So after you have allowed the cast to dry, it is time to extract the parts, for a flat full cast it's a really simple process, just ease the mould from the cast edges and it will come out without any issues.

If your extracting a cast like this one where there are lots of windows, get something like a tooth pick, I cut off the point so it's a little flat on the end, then while the mould us flat on the surface just push the tooth pick down in between each window, as you do you will see the mould break away from the edges of the cast, when you have done this in all the windows, pick up the mould and very gently flex it away from the cast at the edges, with a little practice you will be extracting them with very few breakages

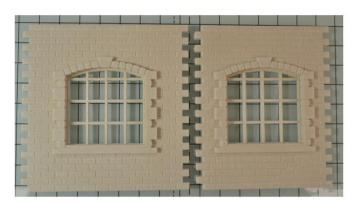
You will also find that using the spray will make extraction even easier that before which is great news, but also remember not to add too much washing liquid or rinse aid as it can cause the casts take longer to set and may cause the to be more brittle, by all means experiment if you want, either way your casts will now be miles better !



Here are a few examples of how your casts should turn out

If you have any questions please contact us using the online form at this address

http://www.linkaonline.co.uk/contact.html



Many thanks to Jeff Howe for all the testing and getting the mix just right, testing the casts and ensuring they are not affected by the process.

For more casting information check out the casting Couch area of the website

We have over 200 moulds available, a dedicated gallery, forum and blog.