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## **AeroMarine Products Natural Liquid Mold Making Latex**

AeroMarine Products Natural Liquid Mold Making Latex is natural latex with a solids content between 68 and 70 percent, which minimizes shrinkage. This medium solids content also allows the latex to pick up fine detail.

AeroMarine Products Liquid Mold Making Latex has the following characteristics:

- · High stability
- Good tear resistance
- · Finished molds have a long library life, when stored properly
- · Long runs while casting concrete and plaster
- Minimal shrinkage

\*Use within 6 months of purchase\*

LATEX MUST BE STORED AT 60F to 72F—DO NOT ALLOW TO FREEZE—FREEZING WILL RUIN THE LATEX!

Our Liquid Latex is preserved with ammonia and has a distinct ammonia odor to it.

THIS LATEX IS NOT FOR USE ON HUMAN SKIN—NOT FOR MAKING MASKS!

**SOLIDS CONTENT** AeroMarine Products' Liquid Latex is approximately 68-70 percent solids.

**APPEARANCE** AeroMarine Products' Liquid latex is a milky white or sometimes slightly grey liquid with medium viscosity. Our liquid latex cures to a beige color.

**SHRINKAGE** All latex has a tendency to shrink. AeroMarine Products Liquid Latex, however, because of its medium solids content, shrinks very little. When molding, allow for some shrinkage.

**STORAGE** Latex has a shelf life of approximately 6 months if kept in a cool place at 60F to 72F. The latex will either turn into a cottage cheese consistency or develop a putrid odor when it is spoiled. *Stir the latex with a paint stick after shipping or storage*. DO NOT LET LATEX FREEZE! It will spoil when frozen!

**Preparing your original piece for latex application:** The piece should be clean, dry and free of oil and dirt. Oil clay, wood, stone and glazed ceramics normally do not need to be sealed. Plaster, concrete, water based clay and copper containing items should be sealed with a sealant appropriate to the material. If you are unsure whether you need sealer, apply a small amount of latex to the piece, somewhere unobtrusive, like the bottom. If the latex sticks or turns dark, then apply sealer.



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**Applying latex:** Starting from the top of your piece, brush on latex in a thin, even, bubble-free coat. At the bottom, continue out from the base about 2 inches to create a flange. Each coat must be allowed to dry completely before applying the next coat. For every coat of latex you apply to your piece, brush on a coat on a spare piece of cardboard or wood. This process will give you a piece of latex that you can touch to see if it is dry and also peel up to check the thickness, without disturbing the latex on the original. Apply the latex in alternating directions to reduce shrinkage of finished mold.

You must apply15-20 coats of latex for strong, durable mold.

**Black rubber powder:** Black rubber powder can be used to extend and thicken the latex, allowing for fewer coats per mold. First, apply 4 coats of plain latex to your original, and then add black rubber powder to the latex in a 1:1 ratio (equal parts black rubber powder and latex). Mix well and brush on latex as explained above, allowing each coat to dry before applying the next one.

**Use of cloth and mother molds:** Cheese cloth, gauze, burlap and other materials are sometimes used to help the latex mold hold its shape. After applying your 15-20 coats, drape the material around the object and brush the latex over the material. Because this drastically reduces the latex's ability to stretch, this technique should only be used on simple molds, with no undercuts. A mother mold can be made once the mold is finished. Common mother mold materials for are plaster and fiberglass.

**Finishing your latex mold:** To maximize the strength of the latex mold, allow to it to fully cure for 72 hours in a warm area before using.

**Mold release:** Concrete mold releases are available on-line and in most hardware stores. A 1% liquid dish soap in water solution or 1 part castor oil in 5 parts denatured alcohol solution also work as a mold release for latex.

**Cleaning and storage:** Clean your latex mold with soap and water and let it air dry. It is always best to store molds with a piece in them to help them keep their shape. Place mold and piece in an air tight container and store in a cool, dry area, out of direct sunlight.

## <u>DO NOT EVER USE THIS LATEX ON HUMAN SKIN!</u> <u>For industrial or professional use only</u>

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