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Thank you for purchasing Hands . Gather all the items listed below and follow the 1-2-3 step process to ensure a beautiful and long lasting keepsake. Please read the instructions thoroughly and make sure you have a clear understanding of each step before beginning. Each kit includes enough mold and casting plaster to do one casting. Determine the look that you want to achieve before beginning.

### Helpful suggestions for the best results:

- 1. Only an adult should be mixing the powders. Children have difficulty mixing thoroughly.
- 2. If possible have someone assist in the process that can help with reading the instructions and mixing the powder, so the person(s) making the statue can concentrate on making the mold. Read the instructions out loud so the other person(s) will understand the process.
- 3. If you touch the side or bottom you should still continue and pour the plaster. You can smooth out any imperfections with sand paper.
- 4. We suggest removing rings with large stones before beginning, because they usually don't turn out.
- 5. Long finger nails do not turn out. You will need to give your statue a manicure.
- 6. It's difficult to remove the molding material from clothing. So don't wear your nice clothing.
- 7. The set time of the molding material will vary with the water temperature. The colder the water the longer it will take for the mold to set. The warmer the water the faster it will set. Room temperature works well (73.4 degree Fahrenheit/23 degrees Celsius is an optimum temperature). At this temperature you have about 2 1/2 minutes. 1 minute for mixing and 1 1/2 minutes for setting time.

#### **Items Included:**

- •1 bag of Make -A- Mold®
- •1 bag of Casting Plaster
- •1 Molding Container
- •1 Instructions

#### **Items Not Included:**

- Liquid glass measuring cup
- •Large plastic mixing spoon
- •Plastic bowl for mixing plaster
- •Sand paper
- Protective sealant or paint
- Safety Pin

# As Easy as 1-2-3

# **Step 1-(Molding Powder)**

- a. Lay a newspaper on the kitchen table or counter top to work on. Measure exactly 6 cups (1500 ml) of **cool to cold (73 degrees)** water and pour it into the molding container. Do not use warm water, the mold will set to quickly. Before adding the molding powder into the container of water, practice inserting your hands into the container of water for two to three minutes. This will allow you to become comfortable with the water temperature and determine the position of your hands. This will ensure that you get a beautiful statue (See Figure 1).
- b. Make sure you are in a comfortable position. We recommend someone hold the container at arms level or placing the container on a chair. Make sure you've covered the chair with newspaper or plastic. Knead the bag of molding powder to break apart any large lumps that have formed. Empty the bag of molding powder into the molding container while mixing.
- c. **Mix quickly** and thoroughly for 1 minute. The material will have a lumpy consistency. We recommend a churning motion straight up and down. It is o.k. if some molding powder spills out while you are mixing.
- d. Insert your hands into the container. After 1 minute the material will begin to thicken and start to set. Make sure the hands are completely covered with molding material but not touching the bottom or sides of the container. Firmly hold your hands in the container until the mold has set completely. Test it by touching the top of the material with your finger. The Molding should not stick to your finger. The bottom of the mold takes a little longer to set then the top. So leave your hands in the mold another 20 seconds after you think the top has set completely.
- e. Remove one hand at a time. Slowly wiggling the hands from side to side (this will release the suction). Be careful not to tear the mold. Rinse your hands with water to remove any molding material. Immediately move on to Step 2 and pour the plaster or the mold will dry out. Helpful Hints:
  - -If you are wearing rings have the man remove his hand first. This will give the woman more space to wiggle her ring free before removing her hand from the mold.
  - -If you are holding an object slowly wiggle your hand free from the object. Ensuring the object stays in place in the mold.

# Step 2-(Casting Plaster)

- a. Peel the molding away from the plastic spoon and use it again to mix the plaster. Pour 1 2/3 cups (405 ml) of cold water into the large mixing bowl. Set aside one spoonful of plaster to repair any imperfections later. Pour the bag of plaster into the bowl of water.
- b. Mix until a smooth consistency develops.

# If you curled your fingers in the mold continue with step c. If you did not curl your fingers continue on to step f. (See Figure 2 for an example of curled fingers.)

- c. Spoon 3 spoonfuls of plaster into the mold. Look inside the mold and tilt the container so the plaster fills the curled finger tips (See Figure 3) By tilting the container sideways this will release any trapped air (This is important otherwise the finger tips will not turn out). To make the air bubbles rise to the surface, tap the container on the table firmly 20 times (See Figure 3).
- d. With the container still tilted in the angles position, spoon as much mixture into the mold as possible without it spilling out. Tap the container on the table or counter top firmly 20 times (See Figure 4).
- e. Tilt the container upwards slightly and spoon as much mixture into the mold as possible without it spilling out. Repeat this step until you bring the container back to its upright position (See Figure 5). Fill the mold to the top with plaster. Tap the container on the sides and bottom until all the air bubbles have surfaced. (Skip steps f & g and continue on to step h).



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5

- d. With the container still tilted in the angles position, spoon as much mixture into the mold as possible without it spilling out. Tap the container on the table or counter top firmly 20 times(See Figure 4).
  - e. Tilt the container upwards slightly and spoon as much mixture into the mold as possible without it spilling out. Repeat this step until you bring the container back to its upright position (See Figure 5). Fill the mold to the top with plaster. Tap the container on the sides and bottom until all the air bubbles have surfaced. (Skip steps f & g and continue on to step h).



Figure 6

- f. Spoon 3 spoonfuls of plaster into the mold. Tap the bottom and sides of the container firmly 20 times, to make the air bubbles rise to the surface. Tap vigorously, it will not hurt the mold.
- g. Continue adding plaster to the mold and tap occasionally until the mold is filled to the top. Tap the container on the sides and bottom until all the air bubbles have surfaced.
- h. Set the container aside and allow the statue to harden for 1-2 hours.

## **Step 3-(Finishing)**

- a. Pull on all sides of the container (two sides at a time) so the molding breaks its suction from the container. Pull the mold out of the container by turning the container upside down. Squeeze and tap until the mold slides out of the container (See Figure 6). Carefully peel the molding away from the statue. Be very careful not to break the fragile fingers! (See Figure 7).
- b. If necessary mix the remaining spoonful of plaster with a few drops of water to get a thick mixture (you want it to have the consistency of putty). Fill any air bubble holes and imperfections at this time (let the statue dry for about 15 minutes).
- c. If necessary usa a safety pin to remove any excess plaster or molding and to accent the details of your statue (See Figure 8).
- d. Sand the bottom of the statue with sandpaper to get a smooth and even bottom.
- e. After you have fixed any imperfections, set your Hands aside to dry for at least 5 days.
- f. Apply 1 or 2 coats of clear protective sealant or paint. If you are going to paint it a color, we suggest placing a small amount in an area that won't be visible. This will ensure you like the color before preceding. The clear protective sealant should be applied after the paint if you choose to paint the statue. This will give your statue a protective coating. Allow 30 minutes dry time between each coat. Place the statue on wax paper while drying.

Figure 7



Figure 8

#### WARNING

- Inhalation of make a mold or plaster may be hazardous to your health.
- Keep Hands<sup>®</sup> kit out of the reach of children.
- Use Hands<sup>®</sup> materials only as instructed above. The Casting Kit Company is not responsible for misuse of their products.
- Seek prompt medical attention if any of these products are ingested.
- If eye contact occurs flush with water for 15 minutes and contact a physician immediately.

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