

# CREATE YOUR OWN CANDLE MOLDS

Step by Step Instructions to Create Your Own Candle Designs



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# HOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN CANDLE MOLDS

If you are making your own candles, you'll probably want to create your own custom physical designs for them. Use this guide to learn how to create candle molds that fit your style of candles.

## WHY MAKE YOUR OWN CANDLE MOLDS?

For a lot of reasons!

First, it will allow you to create custom designs that you may not be able to find elsewhere. For instance, you may want to create custom refills for specialty pottery pieces. Or, you may want to create wax embeds for gel candles or potpourri blends.

Finally, you may have discovered that creating a mold for a “grubby” style candle is far easier than the often messy and painstaking process of creating them by a more conventional method.

Whatever your motivation is, once you've mastered the process of creating a custom candle mold, the possibilities are limited only by your imagination!

## GETTING STARTED

The tutorial included in the following pages uses Smooth-On™ brand products – a brand we have found to be superior to many other industry options. Smooth-On™ products are a long-time favorite in the movie industry, and are used to create everything from facial prosthetic pieces to “breakaway” glass, and much more.

This tutorial assumes you will be using the products indicated – we are unable to provide alternative instructional methods for brands other than what is contained herein. That said, the same basic idea can be used with other mold brands to create your candles.

Smooth-On™ offers sampler kits, which is what was used in the making of this tutorial. By using a sampler kit, you will be able to test several of their best-selling products, with a minimal investment. We recommend that novice mold makers begin with this kit, as you can certainly upgrade to full sizes of the various products once you've mastered the process.



Be sure to carefully read all of the instructions in the tutorial before attempting to take on this project. Assemble your materials, and prepare your work area beforehand. Having all of your materials close at hand will save you precious time, and will ensure the process goes smoothly.

Keep all materials out of reach of children and pets. Ensure that you are working in a well-ventilated area, and that you use such common-sense safety precautions as gloves, and safety goggles.

We wish you continued success in your candle making business!

## ITEMS REQUIRED

- Smooth-On™ Pourable Urethane SuperSampler™ Kit
- Model of the item you want to mold
- Stir Sticks
- Mixing Container
- Ruler
- Timer
- Gloves
- Silicone Sealant (Depending on Mold Container)
- Container to make mold in or mold box

## STEP 1

Prepare your model. Depending on the material your model is made from, a sealing agent may be required. Any porous material will require this. Follow the instructions for your particular sealing agent for number of coats and drying times. We used plaster to create our model.



## STEP 2

Prepare the mold container. The container you use should have a half inch clearance all the way around the model, including the top (see photo). This container could be something as simple as the small bucket we have here, a piece of PVC pipe, or a disposable plastic container. (Styrofoam will not work.)

The size of the container will give you a good idea of how much mold material you will need for your project. Also, place your container somewhere where you won't have to move until it sets up, which is usually 12-24 hrs.



### STEP 3

If you have multiple pieces, or a number of molds you would like to create, a mold box may serve your needs well (see photo). Ours was sealed with silicone caulk. You could also use hot glue. The main concern is to seal the box so it won't leak.



To create a simple mold box, we used several scrap pine boards, and a sheet of clear plexi-glass for the bottom.

## STEP 4

Apply mold release. Apply a coat of mold release to the model and container. This will help with removing the mold from the container and the model from the mold (see photo).

Please see the instructions for your mold release for drying time and number coats.



## STEP 5

Using a clean container, mix your mold material, taking care to follow all manufacturer's instructions.

Some material is mixed in different proportions than others. In our case it is 1:1, but it can vary. Make sure to mix the material thoroughly.

### **NOTE:**

It is important to note the pot life of the mixture you are working with. This is the time you have between when you mix the parts and the material starts to setup. Some of these times can be very short, so make sure your model and container are ready to go.



## STEP 6

Pour the mold material – it is important that you pour the rubber material in the lowest spot of the container, and NOT directly on the model. This is to prevent trapping air bubbles on your model.

When finished pouring, tap the container lightly to loosen any small air bubbles.

Walk away. Let your mold set over night without disturbing it.





## STEP 7

De-mold your model.

If you used your mold release correctly this should be easy. Carefully work your mold from the container. Have patience and try not to tear the rubber.

Congratulations, you completed your mold!

