

# Mold Making - Guide to Solving Common Mold Making Problems

## Mold Cutting

A cold mold is somewhat harder to cut than a warm one.

Change knife blades frequently. Blades will cut more easily if dipped occasionally in a solution of water and liquid household detergent. Dull blades are hard to cut with and are a common cause of accidents.



## Care and Storage of Finished Molds

Molds made from Castaldo Jewelry Molding Rubber can last for decades, preserving the care and expense invested in them, if they are treated in much the same manner as the unvulcanized rubber itself. Keep them away from heat, which can cause the molds to become brittle. Sunlight may darken the mold and age it prematurely. Cold will stiffen the mold, but only until normal



temperatures are regained. Clean finished molds with the mildest means available. A suggested progression would be: water, soap and water; soap, water and ammonia; isopropyl alcohol and then finally industrial cleaners such as acetone, toluene, trichloro-ethylene and methyl-ethyl-ketone.

Normally a mold release agent is not needed, although some workers prefer to use talcum powder or a silicone or Teflon® spray. If talcum powder is used, avoid a buildup of powder in the mold cavity, cleaning it if necessary with an air gun or a soap and water solution.