

Adding Color To Urethane Rubber, Plastic or Epoxy Compounds

Smooth-On liquid rubber, liquid plastic and castable epoxy products are commonly used by artists and movie professionals to create an endless variety of special effects. Movies such as Jurassic Park, Free Willy, E.T., Star Wars, Ghostbusters, Star Trek Series, etc. have all used Smooth-On Products to turn ideas into vivid reality. These effects are achieved by adding various fillers (see technical bulletin on adding fillers or metal powders), color pigment dispersions and also by painting the cast pieces.

Pigmenting

We manufacture most liquid rubber and liquid plastic materials neutral in color so that they can be pigmented. Urethane Rubber products like PMC-724, PMC-744, PMC-746, and the 121 Series as well as plastic (and epoxy) products such as Smooth-Cast 325 Colormatch, SC 320 and 20-136 readily accept pigments for color effects.

Smooth-On offers concentrated pigment dispersions in a non-reactive carrier that are compatible with most Smooth-On urethane rubbers and plastics. Pigments are packed in 4 oz. containers and available colors are Red, Black, Brown, White, Yellow, Green and Blue. *Note: Avoid powder pigments or pigments dispersed in oils, resins, polyols or water because they may add moisture to your mix (foaming) or cause cure inhibition of the rubber or plastic product.*

A small amount of pigment goes a long way. As little as 0.5 parts per 100 parts (of the Part B) may produce the desired effect while as much as 5 parts per 100 parts (of the Part B) can be added without significant effect on the Smooth-On product. Some experimentation on the part of the user may be necessary to achieve desired affect. More than 5 parts dispersion may result in softening or oily exudation of the cured product.

Pre-mix the pigment into **Part B** (Blue Label) of the Smooth-On product before adding **Part A** (Yellow Label).

Painting A Cast Plastic/Epoxy Piece or Figure

Castings made with Smooth-On liquid plastic or epoxy products can be painted after being removed from a rubber mold. For best results, the release agent used (if any) to release the plastic from the rubber mold should be removed from piece with a strong detergent (dishwashing detergent) or solvent (acetone, mineral spirits or toluene).

Tip: Minimize Post Production Clean Up By Coating Your Mold With ATH...

Prior to casting plastic into the mold, Mann's Ease Release 200 is applied to the mold followed by a powder coating of ATH (aluminum trihydrate). An air hose is used to blow any excess powder from the mold. The liquid plastic is then cast into the mold and allowed to cure. Once the plastic has fully cured it can be removed from the mold.

The casting comes out of the mold perfectly dry with a matte finish. An auto body primer is applied, followed by an acrylic paint and finally an acrylic sealer. The major advantage to powder coating is that there is no release agent to remove when the casting comes out of the mold.

Painting Your Cast Piece

Our customers use a variety of paint products to paint their models. "Railroad Model Paint" (available at hobby/model stores) can usually be applied without a primer coat. If using acrylic or similar paint product, a primer coat may be necessary. Apply a base coat of auto body primer (available at most auto supply stores) evenly over the model surface. Let dry. Apply a second coat of primer if necessary.

After primer has dried, paint can be applied.

For More Technical Help Call Us At: Phone: (262) 524-0440 or (800) 255-9847 Fax: (262) 524-0150

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