

## Make a plaster mold for Softbait.

For this purpose there other than regular plaster which is better suited. I have previously used something called stone plaster, it is much harder and finer surface than ordinary plaster and costs approx. 26 euro for 5 kg.

I also made lead molds of it, here you just have to be sure that the plaster is dry, a little water, so water begins to boil, with the result that the plaster crack. Here I usually just let the form be an hour in the oven at 100 degrees before use.

I now have a new product home from Belgium called porcelain powder, it costs a little more.

Immediately there is not much difference, porcelain powder is very hard and also make a fine surface. But the Softbait keep better floating.

Common to both the molds to be used for the Softbait be coated before use, otherwise, the gum mass is related to the mold.

I have not yet tested porcelain powder to lead.

Material:

Stone plaster or porcelain powder

Brush

vaseline

Plasticine or Cernit.

knife

Top nuts, bolts, washers

4 angles in either wood or metal.

Here you can buy porcelain powder and coating.

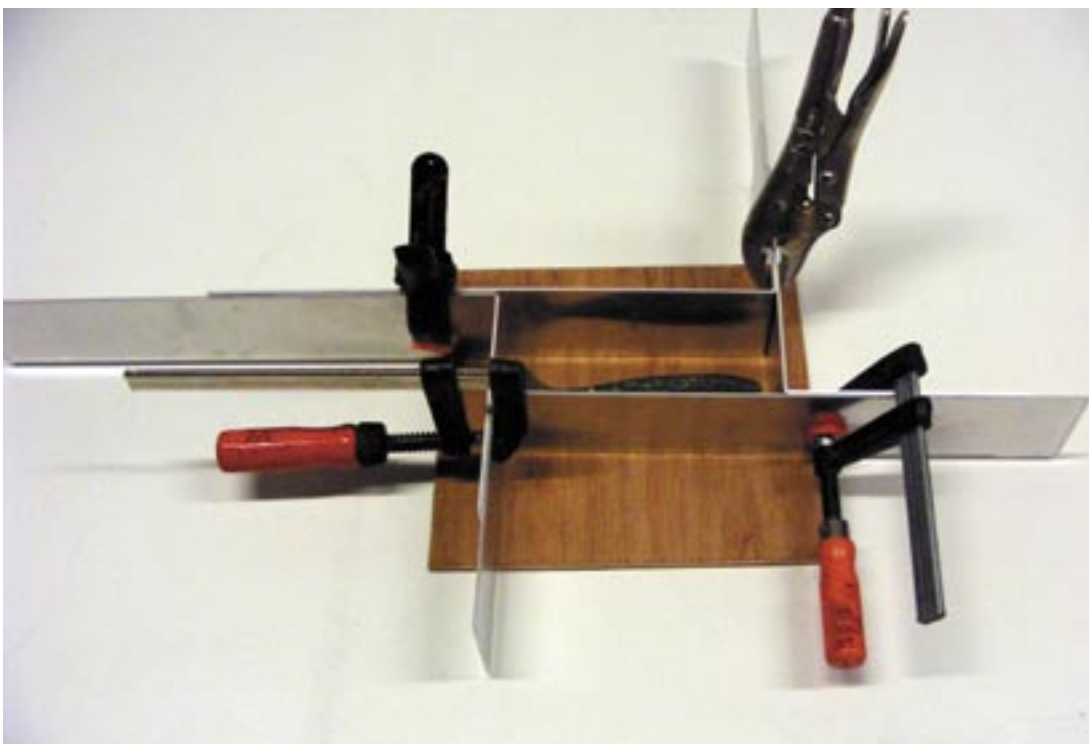
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As the form box I made 4 angles that I can adjust back and forth so that the molding box will fit best and using less material.



Once you have found the right size of molding box are you just a line to be sealant on after.

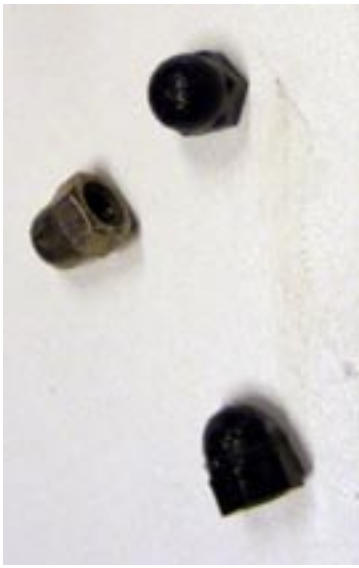


As a sealant, I use modeling clay, which I first rolled out and then I cut strips out. They are laid on the line all the way around.



The box pressed lightly into the clay and the excess inside cut. The box must also be sealed at the corners.

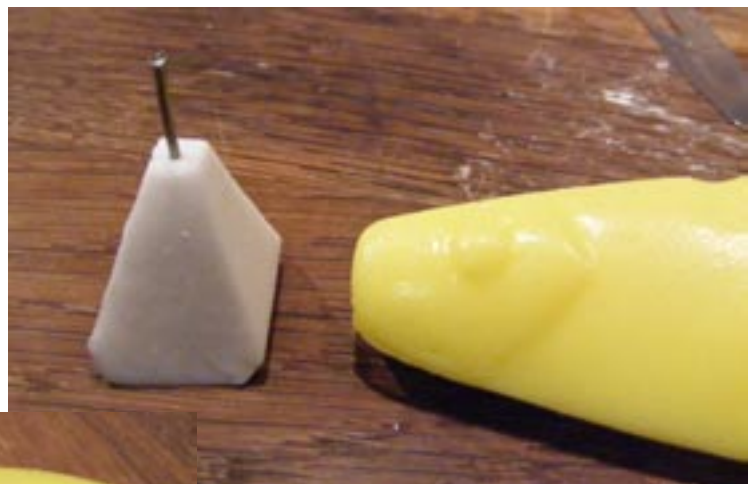
Then we have to prepared guide holes.. Here I use the 4 cap nuts + bolts, nuts and washers, I have the opportunity to adjust. Of course you can make guide holes in a different way, but this is what I have found the best.



Plaster / porcelain is not just to cut once it has hardened.  
So eventually I found out that it is easier to make casting hole in the template itself, otherwise it's a dirty job afterwards either file or grind the holes filling the mold with.

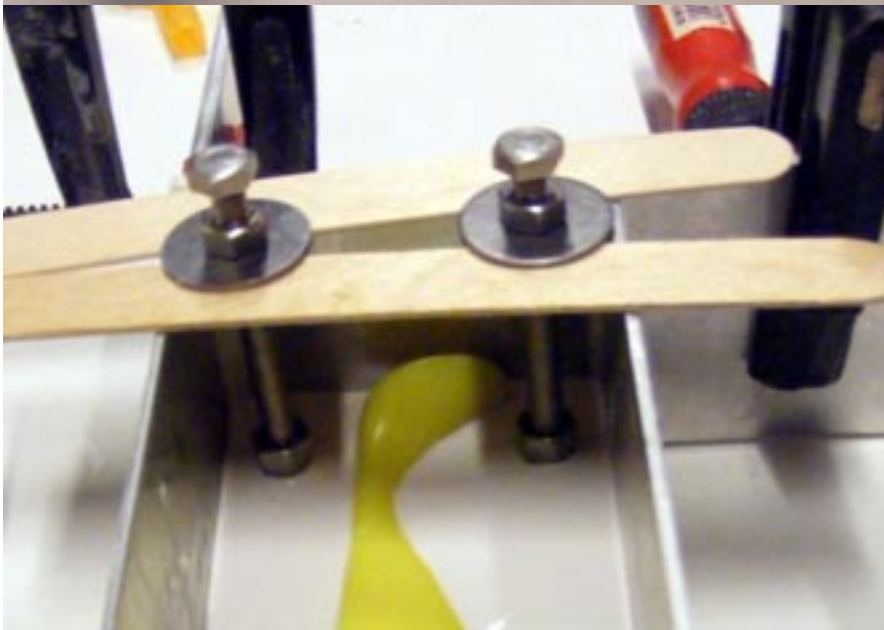
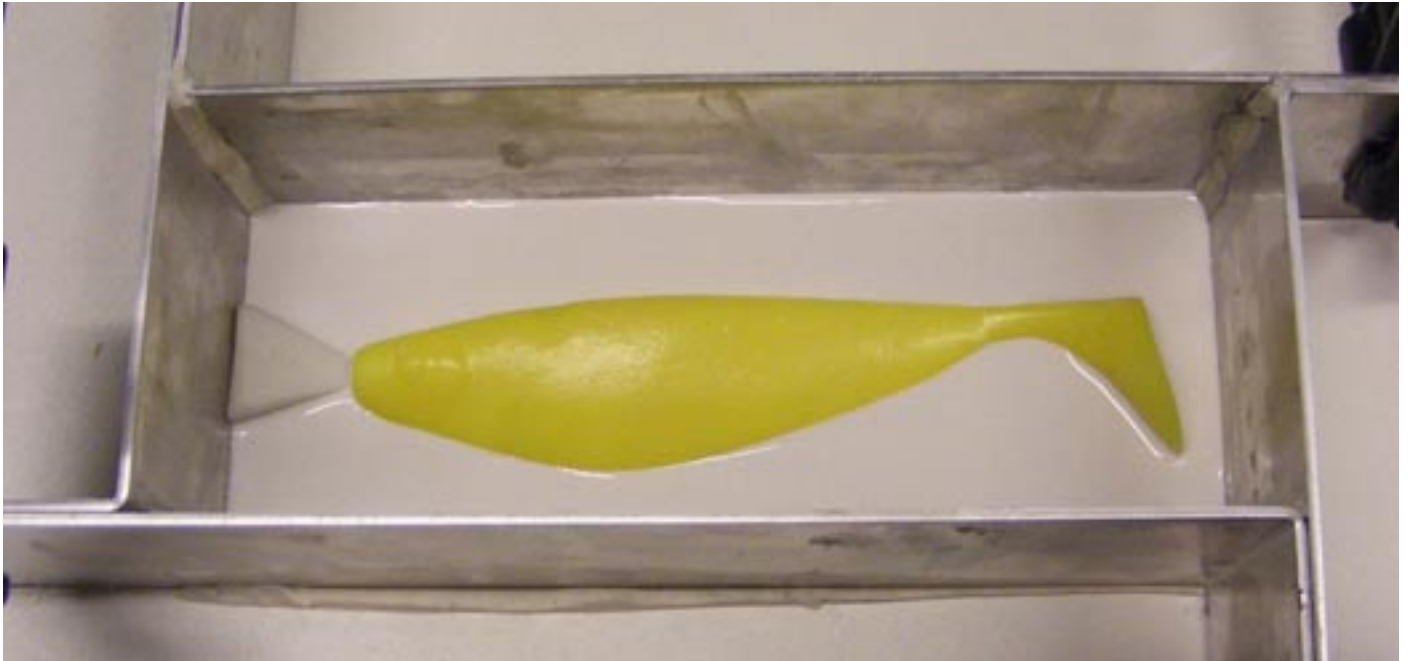
Here is »casting hole« created in Cernit, *Cernit is a kind of clay that you bake at 120-130 degrees and then it becomes very hard.*

There is created a guide pin of wire.



NOTE: Nuts and Cernit be lubricated with petroleum jelly, otherwise it be difficult to get out of the mold

We are now ready to pour the required amount of plaster in the subject of »casting hole« mounted, placed gently into the plaster mass, then do you put carefully its pilot holes into the plaster, here you can then adjust slightly in height to suit.

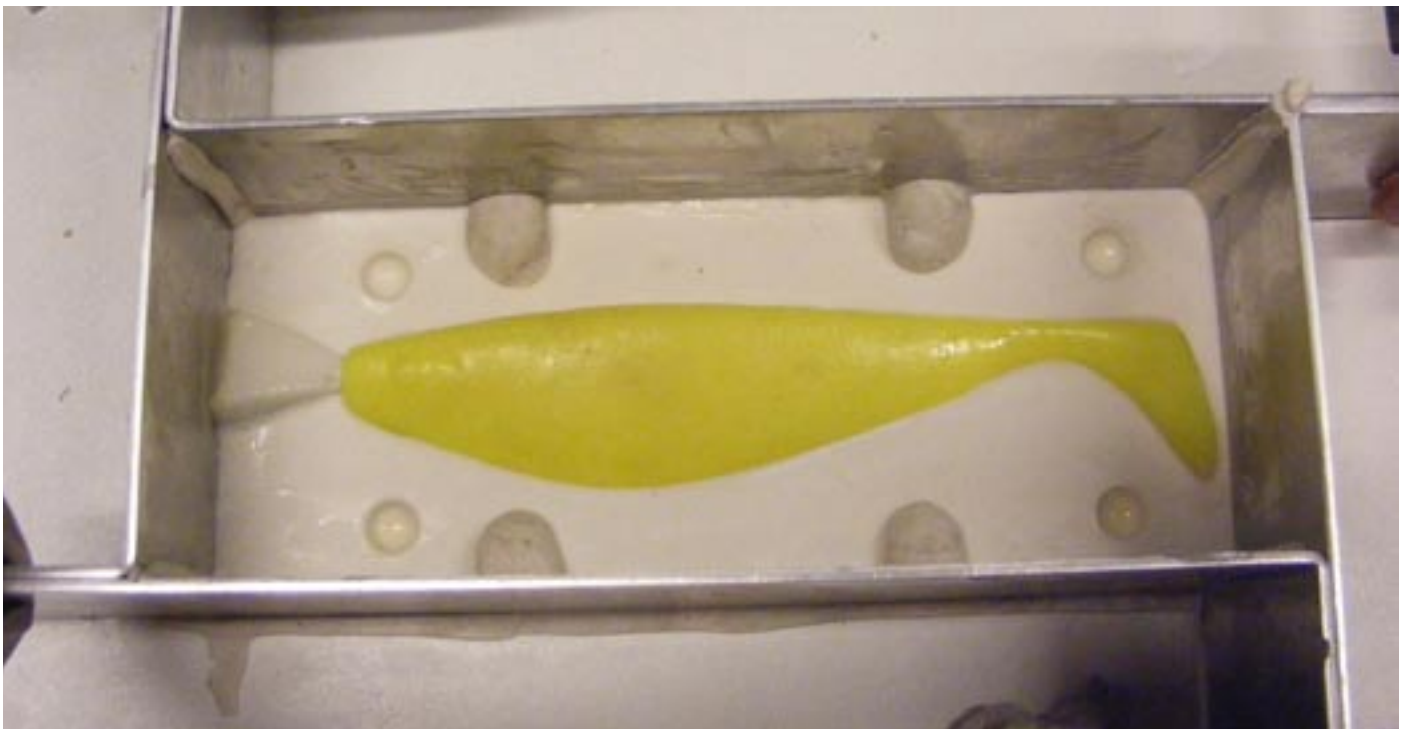


As I written you can still make guide holes in a different way, if you hit the plaster capacity at the right time can cap nuts well stand alone. But as you can see in the next picture, I put nuts in too late and bottom shape was discarded.

There may come a little edge on guide holes but they can easily be removed with a countersink, it is best before the plaster is fully cured.



Approximately 20-30 minutes after we're ready for the next step. Remove the cap nuts and prepare 2 balls of plasticine, these halved and one end is cut straight off. So we are ready to make separation holes immediately.



NOTE: Lubricate it all over again with petroleum jelly well with grease into the guide holes, it is not necessary to lubricate Softbait. This is done with a paintbrush. And we are ready to mix the next batch of plaster and pour on top. Approximately 20-30 minutes after the mold is ready to be separated, it is done very easily with a screwdriver when we have made holes for easy access on the side.



Then the mold is almost ready, the casting hole that can be a bit edges are easily removed with a utility knife.

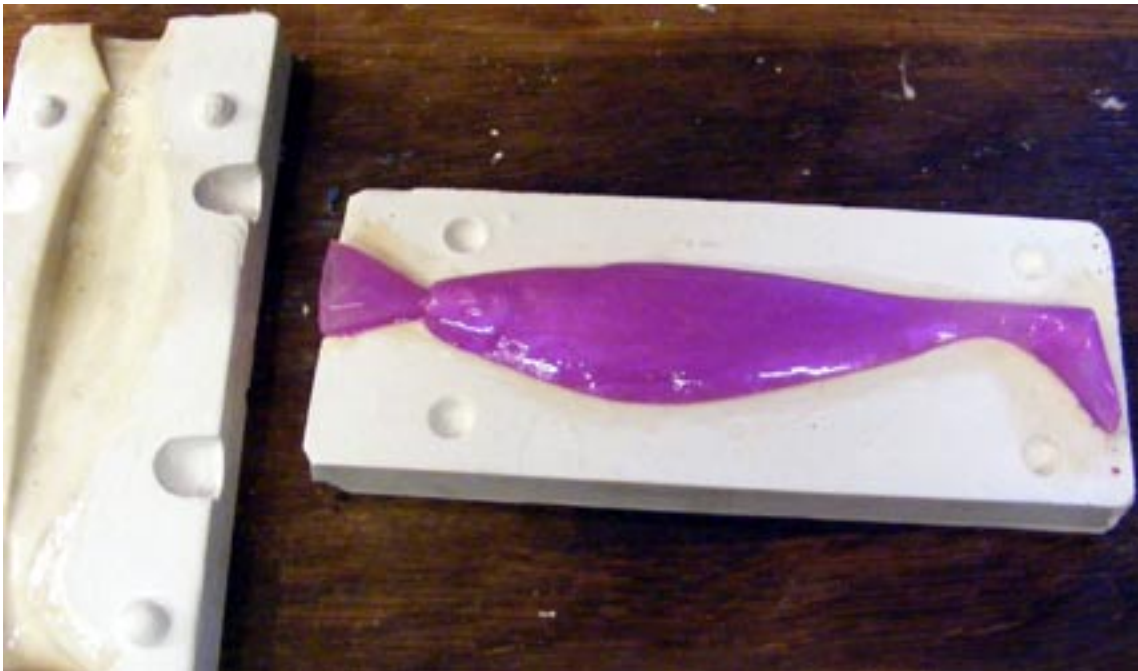
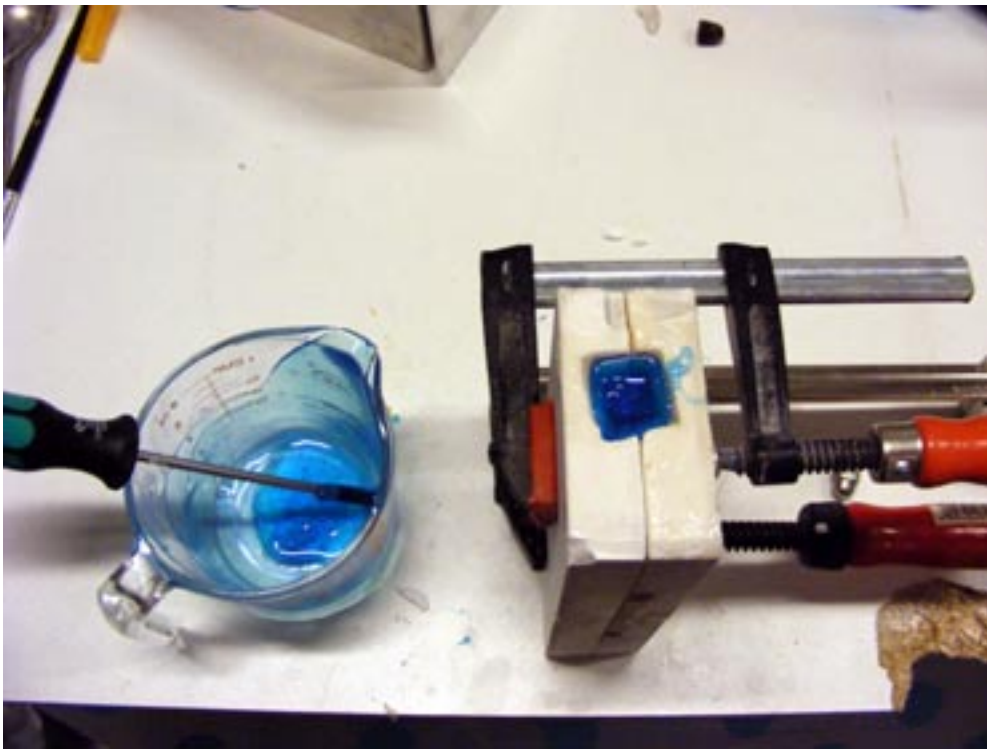
Now, the shape just dry for a few days and then have coating.

Coat only where the rubber matrix runs across, otherwise the mold difficult to get close. The mold must have at least 2 coats of lacquer, maybe a little more depending on the type of paint to use. One advantage is the first time coating is diluted so that it pulls slightly into the plaster.



Silicone molds holds of course better, but is also a lot more expensive to make. I only do fishing tackle for my own consumption and only a handful of each I do. Many times have I made a mold of a bait that over the years I have been happy with .... and then you can not buy it more :-)

It's not the economy that makes the outcome, I think I would save some money if I just bought Softbait ... but it's not so much fun and now I have even the possibility of my own color combinations



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