

Introduction to Mold Making and Casting

Part 1 Making the Mold

Choosing materials for your mold.

Purchase from local store (limited)

Purchase on-line (too many choices if you don't know what you want/need)

Make your master or use something you already have.

Make a box or container to keep the material from running all over the place.

Lego's are good if you have them.

Cardboard or foam board can work well.

Empty pill bottles for cylindrical items might be a good choice.

Mix, pour & let it sit until cured.

Part 2 Casting

A – Metal (Using low-temp melting metal)

Nothing was available locally.

It was hard to choose what I thought I might need.

"Gamers" forums and websites were a big help.

Messy and hard but eventually it turned out OK.

Bonus: Learned a way to pour metal into cavities to add weight.

B – Resin

Purchase from local store (limited)

Purchase on-line (too many choices if you don't know what you want/need)

Mix and pour.

Determine how much you will need to make your part.

Warm up mold in microwave for 60 seconds.

Mix equal amounts of A and B.

Mix slowly to minimize bubbles.

Pour in a thin stream to get rid of bubbles.

Have extra molds on hand to minimize waste.

Depending on your material you could de-mold it in ten minutes and cast another one.

Links:

My website

<http://jamestowntrains.com>

Alumilite

<http://www.alumilite.com>

Bragdon Enterprises

<http://www.bragdonent.com>

Smooth-On

<http://www.smooth-on.com>