



THE COMPLEAT SCULPTOR

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Hydrogel Technical Information Sheet

FEATURES:

- High Performance Alginate
- Easy to Use, Just Add Water
- Good Reproduction of Fine Detail
- Variable Working Time
- Non-Toxic, OK-for Body Casts
- Early Strength for Fast Demold

DESCRIPTION: Hydrogel® N is a dry white powder which when mixed with water at a 3 parts water to 1 part Hydrogel® N weight ratio (approximately 1 water to 1 1/4 Hydrogel® N by volume) yields a creamy mix with a 5 minute working time. Working time may be extended using the optional liquid retarder described below. De-molding can be done, with care, several minutes after mix can no longer be worked.

MODEL PREPARATION: Hydrogel® N can be poured on most surfaces with minimum preparation, but a small test cure should be made prior to use to be sure Hydrogel® N releases cleanly and does not damage water sensitive surfaces. A thin coat of petroleum jelly or Pol-Ease® 2300 release agent will seal most questionable surfaces adequately.

MIXING AND CURING: Weigh or measure proper amounts of Hydrogel® N powder and room temperature water. Mix together rapidly, but avoid whipping in air. A turbo mixer on a variable speed drill is recommended. Thicken with more powder, thin with more water. Apply to surface with a flowing motion pushing air out ahead of material. Optional liquid retarder may be premixed with water to extend working time. See chart below.

Hydrogel® N will not bond to itself unless the previous mix is not completely gelled. Thus, a large mold requiring more than one mix should be made by mixing a series of mixes within five minutes of one another. Wiping a saturated solution of water and baking soda (sodium bicarbonate) on gelled Hydrogel® N will aid bonding of a fresh mix to gelled material. Food color added to the bonding solution aids knowing where it has been applied. As soon as Hydrogel® N is firm, mix and apply a mother mold of plaster (plaster of paris is fine). When plaster shell is set, remove the Hydrogel® N mold and for best dimensional stability, immediately make a positive casting.

USING THE MOLD: Plaster or waxes below 212°F may be poured in Hydrogel® N molds. Castings should be made in freshest possible molds for best results. Hydrogel® N molds will shrink and distort as water dries or is lost. They may be kept usable in plastic bags or sealed containers for a short period of time, up to a few days. Molds should then be discarded.

SAFETY: Hydrogel® N powder may cause dust when being handled. If dust is present, wear a dust mask and avoid eye contact. Hydrogel® N is not for human consumption or use against mucous membranes. Skin contact should be kept as short as possible. Hair must be slicked down with petroleum jelly. Keep containers of Hydrogel® N powder tightly closed as atmospheric moisture may cause lumping and deterioration of the product.

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Technical Support Hotline: (212) 367-7561

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