

SILASTIC® S-2 RTV Silicone Rubber Base and Curing Agent

FEATURES

- Outstanding release properties
- Low viscosity allowing easy mixing and degassing
- Fast thick section cure at room temperature
- If required the product cure can be heat accelerated
- Medium hardness
- High tear resistance
- Very high elasticity, for easy removal of complex replica parts
- Very low shrinkage and good dimensional stability
- Can be used for high temperature casting applications
- Can be made thixotropic (non-flowable) for vertical surface replication

High strength silicone moldmaking rubber

APPLICATION

- SILASTIC S-2 RTV Silicone Rubber is suited for detailed reproduction of surfaces and objects, particularly suited for reproductions in plaster, polyurethane and concrete.

TYPICAL PROPERTIES

Specification writers: These values are not intended for use in preparing specifications. Please contact your local Dow Corning sales representative prior to writing specifications on this product.

Property	Unit	Value
Base		
Viscosity	cp/mPa.s	12,000
Color		Off white
Curing Agent		
Viscosity	cp/mPa.s	120
Color		Transparent
Base and Curing Agent mixture (100:10 by weight)		
Viscosity	cp/mPa.s	9,000
Working time at 23°C (73.4°F)		60
Cured for 24 hours at 23°C (73.4°F)		
Hardness (Shore A)		20
Tensile strength	psi	913
Tensile strength	MPa	6.3
Elongation at break	%	600
Tear strength, Die B	ppi	131
Tear strength, Die B	kN/m	23
Specific gravity at 25°C (77°F)		1.13
Linear shrinkage	%	<0.1

DESCRIPTION

SILASTIC S-2 RTV Silicone Rubber is a two-component material consisting of a SILASTIC S-2 RTV Base, which when mixed with the SILASTIC S-2 RTV Curing Agent cures at room temperature by an addition reaction. A range of materials can be cast into the cured silicone mold: plaster, polyurethane, and concrete are materials typically used.

HOW TO USE

Substrate preparation

The surface of the original should be clean and free of loose material. If necessary, and in particular with porous substrates, use a suitable release agent such as petroleum jelly or soap solution.

In all cases, it is advisable to check before casting that no discoloration or adhesion occurs between the product and the original or mold frame.

Mixing

Weigh 100 parts of SILASTIC S-2 RTV Base and 10 parts of SILASTIC S-2 RTV Curing Agent (see handling precautions) in a clean container, then mix together until the curing agent is completely dispersed in the base. Hand or mechanical mixing can be used, but do not mix for an extended period of time or allow the temperature to exceed 35°C (95°F). Mix sufficiently small quantities to ensure thorough mixing of the base and curing agent.

It is strongly recommended that entrapped air be removed in a vacuum chamber, allowing the mix to completely expand and then collapse. After a further 1-2 minutes under vacuum, the mix should be inspected and if free of air bubbles, can then be used. A volume increase of 2-3 times will occur on vacuum de-airing the mixture, so a suitably large container should be chosen.

Note: If no vacuum de-airing equipment is available, air entrapment can be minimised by mixing a small quantity of base and curing agent, then using a brush, painting the original with a 1-2mm layer. Leave at room temperature until the surface is bubble-free and the layer has begun to cure. Mix a further quantity of base and curing agent and proceed as follows to produce a final mold.

The base/curing agent ratio MUST be between 100:9.5 and 100:10.5.

Pouring the mixture and curing

Pour the mixed base and curing agent as soon as possible onto the original, avoiding air entrapment. The catalyzed material will cure to a flexible rubber within 6-8 hours at room temperature (22-24°C or 71.6-75.2°F) and the mold can then be removed. If the working temperature is significantly lower, the cure time will be longer. Heat accelerating the cure is possible, but this will produce some apparent shrinkage of the mold, due to differences in volume contraction on cooling between the silicone rubber and the original. The higher the curing temperature, the greater the likely differences in dimensions.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Inhibition of cure

All addition-cured silicone elastomers are susceptible to cure inhibition when in contact with certain materials and chemicals. Inhibition has occurred if the elastomer is only partially cured after 24 hours, or has a sticky surface in contact with another material.

Amines and sulphur containing materials are strong inhibitors, as are organo tin salts used in condensation cure silicone elastomers. Wet or moist surfaces can cause gas bubbles to be formed during cure in the silicone adjacent to the substrate surface.

It is strongly recommended that mixing containers, mold construction materials, originals and release agents be checked for any inhibition effect before use.

Use at high temperatures

Molds produced from SILASTIC S-2 RTV have a long life at elevated temperatures. However, continuous use above 200°C (392°F) will result in loss of elongation over a period of time. Use above 250°C (482°F) is not recommended. When heated, a mold made of SILASTIC S-2 RTV will expand producing a small change in copy dimensions.

Reproduction of vertical surfaces

If a skin mold is required of a vertical object or surface and cannot be made by normal pouring techniques, SILASTIC S-2 RTV Base as a catalyzed mixture can be made non-flowable by the addition of SILASTIC® HS II Thixo Additive.

1. Prepare the original as described earlier.
2. Brush the original with a thin layer of catalyzed product. Repeat the operation when the first layer has started to cure to achieve a coating thickness of >2mm. Leave to cure at room temperature until the material is tacky.
3. Prepare a new catalyzed mixture of SILASTIC S-2 RTV Base and add 3% by weight of SILASTIC HS II Thixo Additive and mix thoroughly until a paste consistency is reached. De-airing of the mixture is not required.
4. Using a spatula, cover the coated original with a 1cm thickness of the thixotropic coating until all undercuts are filled; leave to cure for 12 hours at room temperature.

5. Construct a support mold using polyester resin or plaster and allow to set in contact with the silicone coating. Carefully remove the support mold. Peel the rubber off the original and place in the support mold.

Resistance to casting materials

The chemical resistance of fully cured SILASTIC S-2 RTV is excellent, and similar to all addition-cure silicone elastomers. It should be noted however that ultimately, resins and other aggressive casting materials will attack silicone molds, changing physical properties, surface release and possibly mold dimensions. Molds should be checked periodically during long production runs.

Note:

SILASTIC S-2 RTV Base/Curing Agent is an industrial product and must not be used in food molding, dental and human skin molding applications.

HANDLING PRECAUTIONS

Product safety information required for safe use is not included. Before handling, read product and safety data sheets and container labels for safe use, physical and health hazard information. The material safety data sheet is available on the Dow Corning website at www.dowcorning.com. You can also obtain a copy from your local Dow Corning sales representative or Distributor or by calling your local Dow Corning Global Connection.

USABLE LIFE AND STORAGE

When stored at or below 25°C (77°F) in the original unopened containers, SILASTIC S-2 RTV Base and SILASTIC S-2 RTV Curing Agent have a usable life of 12 months from the date of production.

SILASTIC S-2 RTV Base and SILASTIC S-2 RTV Curing Agent can be sensitive to moisture and contamination. Ensure that containers are tightly closed after use.

PACKAGING

SILASTIC S-2 RTV Base and SILASTIC S-2 RTV Curing Agent are available in 5.5kg, 22kg and 220kg kits.

LIMITATIONS

This product is neither tested nor represented as suitable for medical or pharmaceutical uses.

HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

To support Customers in their product safety needs, Dow Corning has an extensive Product Stewardship organization and a team of Product Safety and Regulatory Compliance (PS&RC) specialists available in each area.

For further information, please see our website, www.dowcorning.com or consult your local Dow Corning representative.

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