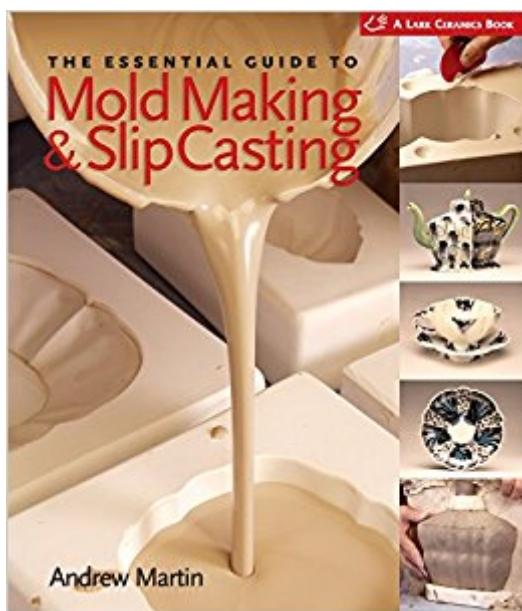


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The Essential Guide To Mold Making & Slip Casting (A Lark Ceramics Book)



Synopsis

For potters, mold making is invaluable because it allows them to slip-cast identical multiples of their work; and this newly revised, now in color edition of Andrew Martin's classic is the definitive guide to the craft. No other volume has shown the processes in such how-to detail. It's overflowing with hundreds of photos, key techniques, projects, master artist profiles, and troubleshooting tips. A thorough introduction addresses materials and tools, and presents Martin's simple, unique template method for making clay prototypes. Create easy one-piece molds to make tiles, bowls, and platters, or multi-piece molds for more complex forms. An extensive overview covers slip formulation, while offering highly desired slip recipes for low-, mid-, and high-fire clay bodies. This will be the standard reference in every ceramist's library.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It's difficult to imagine how a self-published book could contain the hundreds of color photographs potter Martin uses to illustrate the very technical nature of mold making and slip casting. His three decades of studio experience stand behind this revised edition of his ultimate guide to the process of pouring liquid clay into a mold to shape a clay object and ensure that the items, at least their size and dimensions, are identical. The book follows in logical detail all the need-to-know content, from tools and materials to the different iterations of mold making as well as a troubleshooting guide. Steps are pictured in color, numbered, and captioned as companions to the narrative; occasional sidebars, lots of finished art ceramics, and five working artist portraits Anne Kraus, Tom Spleth, Donna Polseno and Richard Hensley, and Richard Notkin underscore the outcome of mastering

these techniques. Plaster-mixing ratios, casting-slip recipes, and a glossary are appended. Jacobs, Barbara Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

Wow... I have read the negative reviews. All I can say is re-read the book the information is there, and if it is not there he tells you where to find it. This is a well written book that is easy to understand and comprehend. The book is more so about a quick way to make prototype molds using Andrew's unique speedy technique, and how to make lid's that will fit well. He covers the basics well, pointing out along the way the most important things you need to do to ovoid common mistakes before they happen. He gives you just about every possible mold making scenario from 1piece molds to 6 piece molds. The two things that would make this a better book. #1 Certain techniques in the book are not regurgitated. "Wash off the mold soap with vinegar." These seven words are just easier to print than; "Refer to page bla bla on how to wash away mold soap." #2 It almost seems like a few pictures are missing, while some of the other pictures that were included are pointless. I would have been a good idea to give this book to the targeted novice mold maker for a prerelease review. Overall I do love the book and I find myself referencing this book again and again.

This book seemed to me to be a good start, but maybe was rushed to production. There are a number of significant issues with this publication:^{*} Poorly organized - rather than taking you through a step-by-step process for each important phase of mold making and slip casting, the information is scattered throughout. Including information on other artists adds to the value of this book, but detracts from fundamental goal of teaching you how to slip cast.^{*} Missing/minimized information - 'Begin with the water and .25 percent of sodium silicate.' How the heck do you get to .25 percent sodium silicate? Does it come only in liquid form, or is there a powder available? Is the liquid form measured by volume or weight? Is the liquid considered 100%, or is it diluted? The tile-making example looked really cool. But two whole paragraphs on the silly fill tubes? And nothing after pouring the slip into the mold. How long to wait? How do you remove the tile after you open the mold? What if the tile doesn't want to come out? And (on page 68) "Mix the Hydrocal and pour it into the frame." Ok - nothing - nothing about mixing Hydrocal. How much water? How long to wait? Is it the same as #1 Plaster? Also (page 19) "Then sand the whole exterior...Sand the interior surfaces as well..." Huh? Why do that? Is it optional, or a key step to getting a successful cast? Also, how long do you dry the molds before you can use them? It's a mystery....^{*} Instructions don't work - I followed the mixing and pouring of plaster and slip down to the last available detail, including the cone 7 Hensley/Polseno recipe. The casts won't come out of the molds. From Troubleshooting,

suggests the mold is too wet (how long do you let the things dry?) or too much EPK, but I used the recipe in the book!

Good info book

NICE BOOK! HAPPY !

Very detailed and the photos, clear and varied, make you want to try to duplicate what the skilled author shows he has done. Very informative for those wanting to work with clay in liquid (slip) form.

Great book on mold making and slop casting! I do both pottery and kiln cast glass and found this a very informative book for my creations.

I bought this because I was just learning the various techniques of casting and mold making and found just about everything I needed to get started, and I still refer to it frequently in my workshop. I bought several other books at the same time on the same subject but this is the only one I keep on hand. I would recommend this for a beginner or even an advanced mold maker

Best book I've found on mold making. Clear instructions presented in an organized format, good photos, this book helped me improve right away.

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