



Mould Care

– Extend the life of your moulds

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Mould Care – Extend the life of your Moulds.

Top Tips

- Use a good release agent that will keep your mould protected and avoid concrete build up.
- Use a good fitted support frame
- On plastic moulds always use an aromatic/solvent free release agent
- Check compatibility of the release agent with your mould.
- If the moulds are being stored for a long time, keep the concrete in the mould, so that the mould keeps its shape and stays solid.
- Keep moulds out of weather extremes
- Keep your moulds clean

Overview

Moulds should last many years. Whether they do or not depends on a variety of factors. How well you store the mould, what your mould is made out of, how many times you use it, do you use it correctly and so on.

When using moulds, ensure you are using the correct release agent for the mould. Which release agent is right for you? This is decided by a variety of factors, what material is the mould? Will it work with a standard mould release agent?

Does it need a release agent? Most do, but some latex moulds need no release agent. When using plastic moulds be sure to use a non solvent release agent. We have known people who have used diesel in plastic moulds, only to find the plastic mould has melted the next day. Ask your release agent supplier and mould provider what the best mould oil is for your mould material.



Is your mould supported correctly?

A good fitted frame goes a long way to ensuring your mould keeps its shape and there for keeps producing over the years. A post liner (shown being sprayed above) sat in a steel channel will keep its shape due to the fact that the channel has been engineered to keep the liner in perfect condition.

When storing your moulds make sure you keep them full, this will ensure they keep their shape. That way when you come to use them again they will have kept their shape and have been protected from the elements.

Also make sure that your moulds are spaced properly, so use wooden dividers if needed to ensure the moulds are not touching each other.



Keep your yard tidy and clean to help extend your moulds life.

Keep your moulds protected from extremes; if you have steel moulds or channels, and you keep them outside, eventually, they will rust, therefore it's always better if you can to keep them protected in a protected environment.

That also means keeping moulds protected from heat and cold, extreme heat can damage plastic, weaken it, or warp it, just as freezing temperatures can make plastic brittle.

When demoulding use the correct tools for the job, don't use a metal hammer when a rubber mallet will do. Treat the moulds as well as you possibly can.

Keep your mould clean. It sounds simple but keeping your mould clean will ensure that your mould will produce a good clean product every time and last cast after cast. If possible you should clean your moulds after every cast, little and often means you won't be scraping concrete off your mould in future. Dirty moulds will build up release agent, cement build up, and eventually need a thorough cleaning. This can lead to your moulds being damaged, so keep your moulds clean!