SILICONE MOLD INSTRUCTIONS

⚠ WARNING! ⚠

A proper non-silicone based mold release needs to be applied to the inside of the silicone mold before each use. Epoxy resin is very harsh on silicone and using one of the following mold release sprays will greatly extend the life of your mold and help prevent mold tear out, rips and damage: MG Chemicals 8329, Mann Ease Release™ 200 or Mann Ease Release™ 300. **DO NOT USE silicone based release agents such as Stoner, Apel, CRC or Smooth On Universal Release. Cooking oil, Vaseline, grease, etc. are also NOT acceptable substitutes.**

All silicone molds (not just ours) have a finite usable life. They are a consumable item. Taking care of them and following the instructions can make the difference between getting 20-30 uses or more out of your mold versus one or two.

- Wash the inside of the mold with soap and water, and dry before each use.

- **Apply one of the recommended mold release sprays before each use.**

- Silicone is heat resistant to 450F, thus **to avoid damage to your mold you should only use a heat gun to pop bubbles.** If you decide to use a torch ensure that you wave it briskly over the surface of your resin only, avoiding contact with the silicone mold.

- **Never use glue or silicone caulking to hold down wood, or create barriers within your silicone mold.** Silicone bonds to silicone and trying to remove it will damage the interior surface of the mold.

- We recommend the use of hand weights, kettlebells or clamps and HDPE spacer blocks (scrap HDPE pieces) to hold down wood inside of the mold.

- If you want to create a piece slightly smaller than the size of your mold, and not waste valuable resin, cut scrap wood or pieces of HDPE plastic equal to the excess size of the mold, to create spacers inside of the mold. Tip: If the HDPE you have available isn't as thick as the interior height of your mold, screw multiple pieces together from the top to create one thick piece.

- After the resin has fully set, simply work your hands around the entire perimeter of the mold walls to detach the resin from the inner walls of the mold. Then starting from one side, slowly peel the mold away from your piece until it's fully detached. **Aggressive removal can rip your mold.**

ROUTER TEMPLATE INSTRUCTIONS

⚠️ NOTICE ⚠️

Our acrylic router templates are generally cut and shipped with the protective clear plastic or brown paper covering left on the material. To reveal the clear material peel the protective layer away on each side.

Router kickback? Problems using your template? Check out these helpful videos:
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- Remove the clear plastic film or brown paper protective layer from each side of the template. Trace the template onto your material, then rough cut your project to remove excess material, staying 1/8-1/4" away from your tracing.

- Use two sided tape, template tape, hot glue or CA/super glue with masking tape to temporarily mount the template to your wood piece. You want to apply enough to ensure the template won't shift or pop off of your workpiece while shaping with your router.

- The majority of our templates are external shaping templates where you want your material to take the final exterior shape of the template. While a handheld router will work, a router table is faster and easier and thus is recommended. For these, a quality 1/4" diameter flush trim, down-cut router bit is recommended, like the Crafted Elements HP 1/4" Spiral Down Cut Flush Trim Router Bit or the Amana Tool 46297 spiral trim down-cut bit.

- Wood inlay templates (such as bow ties and butterflies) require an inlay kit with a spacer bushing such as the Whiteside 9500 Solid Brass Inlay Kit.

- For pocketing out a shape or to create a resin backfilled inlay where you don't want to go through the full depth of your material, use a plunge router in conjunction with the Amana Tool 45983 (1/2") radiused plunge template bit, or the Amana Tool 45460-S (1/2"), 45475-S (3/8") or 47224-S (1/4") straight plunge template bits or similar.

Go to **craftedelements.com/templatevideos** for a library of demonstration videos using our line of router templates.