



# SILASTIC® 3483 Base and SILASTIC® 83 Curing Agent

## FEATURES

- Outstanding release properties
- High flowability and long working time
- Low hardness
- High tear resistance
- High elasticity, for easy removal of complex replica parts
- Can be made thixotropic (non-flowable) for vertical surface replication

## High strength silicone moldmaking rubber

## APPLICATIONS

- SILASTIC 3483 is suited for the detailed reproduction of figures, art objects and similar items.

## 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
<b>Base and Curing Agent mixture (100:5 by weight)</b>		
Mixed viscosity	mPa.s	17,000
Color		White
Working time of catalyzed mixture at 23°C (73.4°F)	minutes	90-120
Curing time	hours	24
<b>Cured for 7 days at 23°C (73.4°F)</b>		
Hardness (Shore A)		13
Tensile strength	MPa	3.5
Elongation at break	%	600
Tear strength	kN/m	25
Relative density at 25°C (77°F)		1.15
Linear shrinkage	%	0.2-0.4

## DESCRIPTION

SILASTIC 3483 Moldmaking Rubber is a two-component material consisting of SILASTIC 3483 Base, which when mixed with SILASTIC 83 Curing Agent, cures at room temperature by a condensation reaction. A range of materials can be cast into the cured silicone mold: plaster, polyurethane and polyester resins 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.

### Mixing

Thoroughly stir SILASTIC 3483 Base before use as filler separation may occur upon prolonged storage.

Weigh 100 parts of SILASTIC 3483 Base and 5 parts SILASTIC 83 Curing Agent in a clean container. 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 suitably small quantities to ensure thorough mixing of the SILASTIC 3483 Base and SILASTIC 83 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 can be used if free of air bubbles. A volume increase of 3-5 times will occur on vacuum de-airing the mixture, so a suitably large container should be chosen.

**Caution:** prolonged vacuum will remove volatile components from the mix and may result in poor thick section cure and non-typical properties.

**Note:** If no vacuum de-airing equipment is available, air entrapment can be minimized by mixing a small quantity of SILASTIC 3483 Base and SILASTIC 83 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.

### **Pouring the mixture and curing**

Pour the mixed SILASTIC 3483 Base and SILASTIC 83 Curing Agent as soon as possible onto the original, avoiding air entrapment. The catalyzed material will cure to a flexible rubber within 24 hours at room temperature (22°C-24°C/ 71.6-75.2°F) and the mold can then be separated from the original. If the working temperature is significantly lower, the cure time will be longer. If the room temperature or humidity is very high, the working time of the catalyzed mixture will be reduced. The final mechanical properties of the mold will be reached within 7 days.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

#### **Reproduction of vertical surfaces**

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

1. Prepare the original as described earlier.

2. Brush the original with a thin layer of catalyzed mixture. 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 3483 and add 3% by weight of SILASTIC 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 the thixotropic coating until all undercuts are filled; leave to cure for 24 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.

### **Use at high temperatures**

Some molds produced from condensation cure silicone rubbers can degrade when exposed to temperatures above 150°C (302°F) over a period of time or when totally confined in storage at high ambient temperatures. This can result in softening and loss of elastic properties.

Please contact a Dow Corning distributor for further advice.

### **Resistance to casting materials**

The chemical resistance of fully cured SILASTIC 3483 is excellent, and similar to all condensation 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 3483 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 SAFETY DATA SHEET IS AVAILABLE FROM YOUR LOCAL DOW CORNING SALES REPRESENTATIVE.

## **USABLE LIFE AND STORAGE**

When stored at or below 32°C (89.6°F) in the original unopened containers SILASTIC 3483 Base and SILASTIC 83 Curing Agent have a usable life of 9 months from the date of production.

When stored below 20°C (68°F), SILASTIC Thixo Additive may solidify. The product can be easily liquified by immersing the closed container in warm water.

## **PACKAGING**

SILASTIC 3483 Base is available in 5kg, 20kg and 200kg containers. SILASTIC 83 Curing Agent is available in 0.25kg, 1kg and 10kg containers. SILASTIC 3483 Base with SILASTIC 83 Curing Agent is also available as a 1.05kg kit.

SILASTIC Thixo Additive is available in 100g and 500g containers.

## **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 Health, Environment and Regulatory Affairs specialists available in each area.

For further information, please consult your local Dow Corning representative.

**WARRANTY  
INFORMATION - PLEASE  
READ CAREFULLY**

The information contained herein is offered in good faith and is believed to be accurate. However, because conditions and methods of use of our products are beyond our control, this information should not be used in substitution for customer's tests to ensure that Dow Corning's products are safe, effective, and fully satisfactory for the intended end use. Dow Corning's sole warranty is that the product will meet the Dow Corning sales specifications in effect at the time of shipment. Your exclusive remedy for breach of such warranty is limited to refund of purchase price or replacement of any product shown to be other than as warranted. Dow Corning specifically disclaims any other express or implied warranty of fitness for a particular purpose or merchantability. Unless Dow Corning provides you with a specific, duly signed endorsement of fitness for use, Dow Corning disclaims liability for any incidental or consequential damages. Suggestions of use shall not be taken as inducements to infringe any patent.

