TECHNICAL INFORMATION

MIKROSIL™ Casting Material Kits

Catalog No. MCM100B, MCM100BL, MCM100G, MCM100W, MCM100CA

INTRODUCTION

MIKROSIL™ casting material has been formulated to produce excellent results when casting small details, and it offers high contrast for microscopic examinations. The material is generally used without a release agent and has a relatively short setup time. These properties are especially important when working with shallow impressions or marks and small details that require large magnification.

MIKROSIL™ is packaged in four different colors: White, Gray, Brown and Black. Brown MIKROSIL™ is a reddish brown color preferred by toolmark examiners. The dark color is also favored for the examination of firing pin marks, breech face marks and other marks on weapons and on cartridge casings. Gray MIKROSIL™ is the choice of those needing good contrast from a light-colored surface and the shadows created by side

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lighting. White or Black MIKROSIL™ is most often used to lift fingerprints developed with powders from textured or irregularly shaped surfaces.

The material is easily mixed, and setup time is less than 10 minutes at room temperature.

CAUTIONS

- Before using this kit, consult the appropriate Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) found on our website at www.sirchie.com/support.
- Shelf life is up to one year for unused portions of base material and catalyst. Do not expose this material to extreme heat such as storing it in the trunk of a car during the summer months.
- Mix the base material and catalyst quickly until a uniform color results. Limit mixing time to 20-30 sec.
- While this product is safe to handle, avoid getting it in your eyes. If eye contact occurs, flush with water for at least 15 minutes. If irritation persists, consult a physician.

PROCEDURE

1. Onto one of the white plastic cards squeeze out a 1.5" to 2" length of base material and a slightly shorter strip of catalyst (Fig. 1). The base material will be wider than the catalyst.
2. Using one of the wooden mixing spatulas, mix the two components together thoroughly on the card (Fig. 2). Mix about 20-30 seconds until the base material absorbs the blue color and there are no blue spots or streaks. ***NOTE:*** *Longer mixing times may result in the material setting up too quickly.*

Suspect tool mark found at the crime scene.

FIGURE 1—Measure out lengths of base and catalyst.

3. Apply the material to the surface in one of two ways:
   a. With the casting material still on the mixing surface, press the material against the tool-mark, indentation, or surface with developed prints.
   b. Use the wooden spatula to scrape off the material from the card and apply it to the surface (Fig. 3).

FIGURE 2—Mix thoroughly.

FIGURE 3—Apply the material to the surface to be cast.

4. After allowing sufficient setup time (10 minutes or longer), carefully peel the cast away from the surface and compare the cast with the suspect tool as shown in Figure 4.

Note: *Use Black MIKROSIL™ when dusting with light colored powders such as white, gray, and most fluorescent powders. Black is also recommended for use with fluorescent powders so there will be no background fluorescence.*

FIGURE 4—After peeling the cast away from the surface, compare it with the suspect tool.

ORDERING INFORMATION:

MCM100B.....MIKROSIL™ Kit, Brown Putty, 7 oz.
MCM100BL.....MIKROSIL™ Kit, Black Putty, 7 oz.
MCM100G.....MIKROSIL™ Kit, Gray Putty, 7 oz.
MCM100W.....MIKROSIL™ Kit, White Putty, 7 oz.
MCM100CA.....MIKROSIL™ Catalyst

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