

Paving Impress Moulds

Instructions for use



The paving impress moulds are used with DAS (or equivalent) air drying clay to quickly produce paving slabs, cobblestones, etc. White DAS is normally used.

Start by kneading the DAS to make sure it is soft (add a little water if necessary), then roll a thin (1mm thick - thinner for 1/48) sheet of DAS (like pastry) large enough to cover the floor area. Spread a thin layer of PVA glue over the floor and lay the sheet of DAS over the glue. Press down gently to give a smooth surface with no trapped air or glue bubbles. If the area to be covered is too big for a single sheet separate pieces can be laid and blended together with a wet finger or spatula. Trim off excess material from the edges.

Start from a corner and press the impress mould firmly into the DAS. Lift out and check that the paving has been moulded cleanly. Reposition the mould alongside the previous position and repeat. Note that the moulds are designed so that the correct repeating pattern will be obtained when the mould is placed alongside the previous position, overlapping by the mortar width. If you are working into an internal corner and cannot fit the complete mould into the space left, make sure that when you overlap with the previous position the paving is aligned correctly. The 1/12 paving set consists of a full slab and a half slab to make it easier to get the correct offset.

When the whole floor has been covered, use an old toothbrush or stiff paint brush to lightly stipple the surface of the paving. This flattens the surface (which may have been lifted slightly when removing the mould) and adds a little texture to the surface. Clean any DAS adhering to the mould.

When the DAS has dried (allow at least 8 hours), the paving can be painted with acrylic paints. Apply an overall thin coat of grey/brown paint to suit the colour of paving required. Individual paving slabs or cobblestones can be picked out in different shades of the basic colour, if required. When the paint has dried apply a very thin wash of "dirty" grey/brown over the whole area. This settles into the mortar grooves and produces the mortar colour and also produces a pleasing weathering effect over the paving surfaces. The paving can be given a coat of matt acrylic varnish, if desired, to give extra protection to the surface.

Impress moulds for bricks, stone, paving, roof slates and tiles are available in 1/12, 1/24 and 1/48 scales from:

Malcolm's Miniatures
Four Oaks, 14 Oakdene
Woodcote
Oxfordshire RG8 0RQ

Tel: 01491 680951
Mob: 07974 714439
Web: www.malcolmsminiatures.co.uk