

# Ferracotta

## 1. DESCRIPTION

Ferracotta is a powder which, when mixed with water, produces a medium suitable for casting large and small, solid and hollow articles in flexible moulds.

## 2. ADVANTAGES

- Easy mixing
- Water dispersible
- Excellent inter coat adhesion
- No firing or elevated temperature curing required
- High strength
- May be sculpted and worked/finished white wet
- May be finished with proprietary products

## 3. APPLICATIONS

Ferracotta may be bulk cast in sections of varying thicknesses or may be slush cast to produce hollow castings.

- Reproduction of decorative plaster/stonework
- Interior decoration and effect
- Sculpture
- Gift ware
- Ornaments for homes/conservatories/public display
- Architectural display

## 4. MIXING

### a) FIRST COAT:

1000gms Ferracotta powder  
300-350ml water

Gradually add the Ferracotta powder to the water until it is an homogeneous, flowable liquid.

### b) FURTHER COATS:

1000gms Ferracotta powder  
250-300ml water

Method of moulding is the same as the first coat.

#### **Note:**

Surface water uptake may be reduced by adding approximately 25% of a vinyl acetate solution to the first slush casting coat.

Information contained in this document is the result of careful tests carried out objectively. It has been produced to aid the Buyer, but without implying any commitment on our part. The Buyer shall remain responsible for satisfying himself that the products as supplied by us are suitable for his intended purpose. Since we cannot control the application, process, or use of these products, we cannot accept responsibility therefore.

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## 5. PROCESSING

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### a) SLUSH MOULDING/HOLLOW CASTING

For best results, several layers of material should be built up, starting with a well watered initial coat to capture mould surface detail.

Pour the Ferracotta into the mould and rotate mould slowly to give an even coating, ensuring that all mould surfaces are coated, including undercuts and reverse detail.

Pour out excess material and allow to dry for 20-30 minutes, until surface has hardened, but still moist.

In order to fill the base of the model and add reinforcement to the walls, which may otherwise be weak points, the last coat can be slush moulded for a longer period around these areas.

When leaving to harden, any excess will naturally drop to the base area and ensure the object is produced to stand on a stable base.

### b) SOLID CASTING

Solid sections may be cast in one process. Allow the material to dry naturally to prevent crackling and surface crazing.

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## 6. DEMOULDING

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Demoulding may take place approximately 1 hour after the final coating has been applied. At this 'green' stage, flash and excess material may be removed by suitable tools. Allow the casting to air-dry. This may take up to 7 days depending on size of the object and temperature.

During drying salting may occur. This can be removed with warm water and a cloth.

DO NOT FORCE DRY as surface cracking and breakdown may be a problem.

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## 7. FINISHING

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When dry, a variety of proprietary paints and varnishes may be used to decorate and seal castings.

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## 8. HEALTH & SAFETY

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Use good methods of hygiene.

Nuisance Hazard with dust, do not allow dust to build up.

Airborne dust necessitates the use of a dust mask.

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## **9. STORAGE & SHELF LIFE**

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Ferracotta should be stored in a cool dry place in an air-tight container and should be useable for at least 6 months when stored correctly in the original container.

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