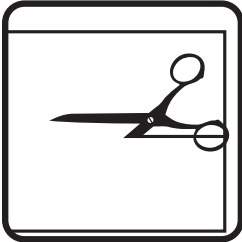


Working with Celastic

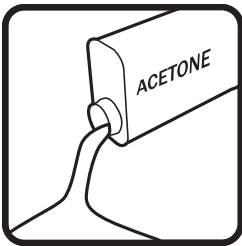
Celastic is a textile fabric impregnated with a polymer core. Atlas recommends using Acetone to begin the activation process with Celastic. Once soaked, Celastic becomes completely relaxed and pliable, conforming and stretching to easily mold to both positive and negative molds with complex compound curves. Follow the suggestions below, or develop your own workflow.



Cut to size

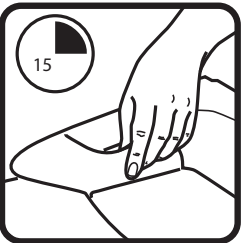
Trim Celastic to size. Typically users will leave a few inches of overhang outside of the molding area. This will be trimmed off and sanded after Celastic cures.

Tip: When adhering Celastic to itself, try tearing the celastic where the two ends meet. This typically provides a smoother transition and a better bond when final sanding is done.



Wet out

- Some users prefer to pour acetone directly on dry, unactivated Celastic during the molding process; wetting out the fabric all at once while on the form, or in small sections.
- Other users prefer to soak the sheet of Celastic in a bath for 2-3 minutes before moving to the mold. This soaking period enhances the elasticity of Celastic during forming.



Work and Form

Use your hands to manipulate Celastic to the shape of your mold. Celastic will hold complex shapes and detail after curing. Deep recesses, or very fine detail may require constant pressure during curing to maintain shape. Once the acetone has evaporated, the curing process is complete.

Note: exact curing time is dependent upon the product line and thickness of Celastic. Adding acetone to the drying fabric during the molding process will extend the curing process if more time is needed.



Cover

Once the acetone has evaporated from the Celastic fabric, curing is complete. Your mold may be immediately cut, sanded, drilled, painted, covered, etc.



Pro Tip – Bonding Celastic to itself

Celastic LT adheres to itself well during curing with light pressure applied. However KetoForm GT/XT do require an additional step. 'Plastic Wood' is a product sold as a wood filler and is available at most hardware stores. Mix a small amount with acetone to a tooth-paste-consistency mixture and brush on to acetone activated KetoForm. When applied during the curing process, it will yield a surface that is sandable to a seamless finish.

The simplest of the ketones is acetone, a low cost, non-volatile organic compound available cheaply and readily. Atlas recommends using acetone with Celastic. Other ketones (such as MEK, Butanone, etc.) will activate the polymer, and will provide varying results in workability during curing and final product. Feel free to experiment on your own and let us know your results. We welcome feedback.
