

Stone Impress Moulds

Instructions for use



The stone impress moulds are used with DAS (or equivalent) air drying clay to quickly produce stone walls. White DAS is best to allow suitable stone colours to be created. Because most stonework is randomly laid, the stone moulds are not made as a single block like the brick moulds. Instead five separate moulds are provided which contain either a single stone or a group of stones.

Start by kneading the DAS to make sure it is soft (add a little water if necessary), then roll a thin (1mm thick) sheet of DAS (like pastry), using a piece of dowel or pipe, large enough to cover the wall. Spread a thin layer of PVA glue over the wall and lay the sheet of DAS over the glue. Press down gently to give a smooth surface with no trapped air or glue bubbles. Trim off excess material from the edges. For window and door openings make an X cut across the opening and fold the DAS into the opening, then trim from the inside to leave DAS over the edges of the opening.

Even random rubble walls are laid roughly in courses, so it is important to keep the rows horizontal. Lightly mark horizontal lines at intervals across the wall as guides. Start at the bottom of the wall and work upwards in courses. Press the stone moulds into the DAS to create the stone effect. Use the five moulds at random, turning the moulds round to achieve a random effect.

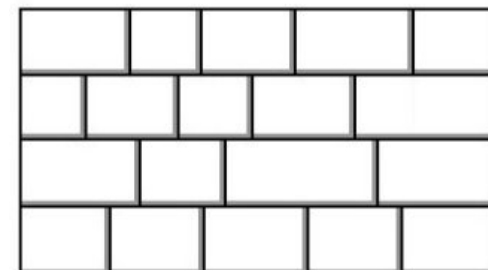
When the whole wall has been covered, use an old toothbrush or paint brush to stipple the surface of the stones. This flattens the surface (which may have been lifted slightly when removing the moulds) and adds a little texture to the surface. Clean any DAS adhering to the moulds.

When the DAS has dried (allow at least 4 hours), the stones can be painted with acrylic paints. Apply an overall coat of paint to suit the colour of stone required. Individual stones 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 wall. This settles into the mortar grooves and produces the mortar colour and also produces a pleasing weathering effect over the stone surfaces. The stonework can be given a coat of matt acrylic varnish, if desired, to give extra protection to the surface.

Stone patterns for walls



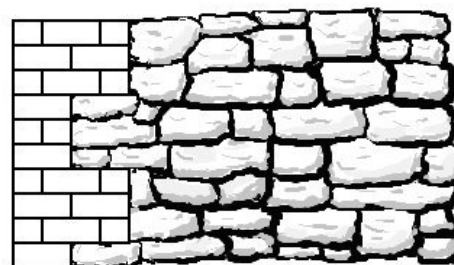
Rubble



Ashlar

Stone walls vary in the size and shape of the stones and the way in which they are laid. Some types of stone (eg granite and some types of limestone) are hard and cannot be cut easily so are irregular in shape and are laid in rough courses with varying sizes of stone - this pattern is known as rubble and may be fairly random or regularly coursed. Softer stones such as chalkstone can be cut into regular blocks and laid in regular courses - this pattern is known as ashlar. The softer stones are also usually cut with flat surfaces, whereas harder stones will usually be rougher in finish. One variation of this is knapped flint. The relatively small pieces of hard flint are split (knapped) to reveal a fairly flat surface which is sometimes shiny. The flint is laid with the flat surface to the face of the wall. Another common arrangement is the use of quoins (corners) of brick or stone that can be cut square. This is often used with very soft stones where the corners

would be easily damaged or with rubble stone where it is not possible to create a square corner.



Rubble with brick quoins

Impress moulds for all the stone patterns described and for brick quoins are available in 1/12 and 1/24 scales from:

Malcolm's Miniatures

Four Oaks

14 Oakdene

Woodcote

Oxfordshire RG8 0RQ

Tel: 01491 680951

Mob: 07974 714439

Web: www.malcolmsminiatures.co.uk