



Make Vampire Fangs



Have you ever wanted to suck the blood out of an innocent's neck? If so, then this is the project for you! Eric Skiff came over and we made vampire fangs! Eric made these for years using dental acrylic, but recently figured out that acrylic for nails is basically the same material. The great thing about this project is that you'll learn how to mold three different types of materials! We're going to make a negative mold of your teeth out of alginate, a positive mold out of your teeth out of plastic, and then the fangs are made out of a two part acrylic that you'd use to make fake fingernails!



Step One: Alginate!

The first material we are going to work to make a negative of our teeth is alginate. It's kelp, which is a type of seaweed! Because it's a natural material, it's non toxic. For those same reasons, the mold doesn't last very long. We found that it started to crack after just a few hours.

Mix the stuff up 1 part alginate to 1 part water. We used the "fork attachment" on a drill to stir it up. Once it's ready, pour it into your mouth-guard, or if you don't have one of those you can do what we did – cut your own out of a paper cup!

Then squish it into your teeth. You're going to want to avoid having your teeth go all the way through to the bottom of the paper cup. Wait 3 minutes and you're good to go. I put a dab of the alginate on my finger so that I could tell when it had gone solid.

Once you pull this out of your mouth, you'll find that you have a negative of your teeth. To make a positive, we're going to put this into the bottom of a cup and pour in some two part plastic!



Step Two: Two-Part Plastic!

To make positives of our teeth, we used a two part plastic “Smooth-Cast 300” plastic from smooth-on. This stuff is great. It’s quick, easy, and dries hard. Mix it with one part one liquid and one part the other and then stir it up. After a few minutes, this will turn white. Mixing these chemicals brings about an exothermic reaction which means that it’s going to get hot, I think if you sunk your finger into and let it get hard, you would get burned. Bad idea!

Once it’s dried and cool, let it dry for another 10 minutes. Really, we couldn’t wait and we ended up screwing up our first version. All the teeth came out droopy! It’ll be hard on the outside faster than it’s hard on the inside!

When you’re done you have a plastic version of your teeth.



Step Three: Acrylic

Now the reason we've done all this is so that you don't have to put the nail acrylic in your mouth. It's a smelly thing that is inert and non-toxic when it dries, but it's very smelly when it's drying. In theory, you could just slap the stuff in your mouth and file it down, but we didn't like the smell and it gets hot too, so that's why we made plastic copies of our teeth to work with!

You've got to get the nail acrylic as a powder and a liquid and mix them together. The more liquid you add, the quicker it will set up. You'll want to mix this outside or in a well ventilated area as it's stinky!

After a few minutes of mixing, it will become pasty and then stick together. Then you can mush it up into a ball. Then you'll want to stick it onto a fake canine tooth you have. If you think ahead and move fast you can mix enough for two teeth and smooch them both on there. You want it to overlap the gum line and smooch in between the teeth really well! You also want to have it stick up from the teeth a bit so that you can grind it into a sharp point.



Step Four: Grinding

For this part you're going to need a dremel. You could, in theory, grind this down with sandpaper or a file, but that would take forever. Invest in your future and buy a dremel. You will be happy.

Once you've got it make sure you don't hurt yourself. Don't touch the spinning sander to your hand and only use the lowest setting. You'll want to grind the sides of the fake tooth to just almost the point where the tooth is. Leave a little hanging off to help keep the tooth gripped on there. Also with the gumline, do the same! Grind it down to where you are almost to the gumline and then leave a little extra. If you don't do this, your real teeth will show through behind the vampire teeth and that's just no good.

As you are grinding, take time-outs to go rinse them off and stick it on your tooth and look in the mirror to see how it's going.

While it may be tempting to make a tooth that is just longer, you won't be able to close your mouth, so make sure to have the tooth overhang to the side so that when you close your mouth it leans out over it and lets you show these new pearly whites off!



Now that your done, put them in, suck in to get them vacuumed on and you're good to go!

If they don't fit perfectly, don't fret! You can use the glue for dentures or just a bit of gum to keep them in.

With a little practice you can take them on or off with your tongue so that you could be talking with someone, flash your vampire teeth and take it off and hide it in your cheek. Mwahaha! Just be careful that you don't swallow it, while it's non-toxic once dry, it's just not something you want to do!

Then it's time to wear them and walk the streets as the living undead with eternal life! Make sure to take pictures and upload them to the Make: Flickr Pool at <http://flickr.com/groups/make/pool!>

Have a grrrrrave weekend!