



## **SILKEMAT® LITE INSTRUCTIONS/TIPS**

1. SilkeMat® Lite is comprised of the same non-carcinogenic fiber as regular SilkeMat®. However, the differences lie in the thickness which is nominally 3m thick and it is a softer and more loosely constructed material.
2. SilkeMat® Lite has a more delicate construction and should be handled gently to maintain its structural integrity.
3. Be sure to coat the model, if non-porous, with a separator. Something as simple as cheap vegetable spray will work. For porous models, encase in a thin polycarbonate bag or cover with clear kitchen wrap.
4. When rigidizing SilkeMat® Lite with SilkeMat® Rigidizer, we recommend only lightly rigidizing one side and applying that side to your model to start, as it will absorb the rigidizer quickly. By only rigidizing one side, you can maintain better material manipulation.
5. By the time the rigidizer is absorbed throughout, you should be well into your project. Once your material is adhering well to the model you can finish adding rigidizer to complete. Remember, the fibers will separate if too saturated.
6. However, you can also use extra pieces of SilkeMat® Lite, wet with Rigidizer, to patch any areas that have separated.
7. You can lightly sand when dry. However, SilkeMat® Lite has a much softer pattern than regular SilkeMat®.
8. SilkeMat® Lite is best used for recreating detail work. It's very thinness allows for better contact to the model for casting, bas relief, pate de verre, crackle and many more processes.
9. Drying and firing instructions are the same as for regular SilkeMat®, although you will find a significant shortening of the drying time.
10. A rigidized mold may be lightly sprayed with a high-quality boron nitride spray to avoid any sticking issue due to the rigidizer, or a light coating of kiln wash.
11. As with regular SilkeMat® some users may be sensitive to SilkeMat® fibers. In that case, gloves & appropriate clothing are suggested.

We are constantly discovering new things about this product and will update you accordingly. Our Facebook Group "SilkeMat Tips & Techniques" is a great source for interacting with the SilkeMat® community and discovering new and different ways to use SilkeMat®, SilkeMat® Lite and SilkeMat® Rigidizer.  
Happy Firing!

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