

# Gel Coating



Applying a gel coat is the first step in most open- and closed-mold processes. Gel coat is a highly pigmented form of unsaturated polyester resin. When it is catalyzed with MEKP (methyl ethyl ketone peroxide), it yields a very durable, aesthetically-pleasing finish. The surface finish can range from textured to a class A finish as found on automobiles.

Gel coat can be pigmented to the desired product color or the de-molded product can be post-painted.

Gel coat is sprayed in multiple passes to achieve a 15 to 25 mil thickness. Gel coat alone does not have the structural strength to be removed from the mold or to be used as a final product, so another material must be added for reinforcement. This second step in the process is called lamination.