



ASSYST bv / A.S.O.W. bv
Hellegatstraat 13a - 2590 Berlaar - Belgium
Tel: +32 495 50 61 14 / +32 496 83 70 27
Website: www.assyst.org / www.artsuppliesonweb.com
E-mail: ao@assyst.org / vera.opsommer@assyst.org

CHAVANT CONTOUR

DESCRIPTION:

Chavant™ Contour™ clay (an updated variant of Monu-Melt™ clay) is a versatile non-drying modelling clay that offers the following benefits:

- Butter-soft hand feel
- Ideal for trowelling/spraying on vertical surfaces
- Brushable in silicone moulds
- Friendly to solvents
- Seamless mixing
- Holds extremely fine details
- Suitable for sulphur-free modelling tools

PRODUCT OVERVIEW:

Contour™ clay is a precision sculpting medium that forms, smooths and cuts easily to achieve exceptional surface detail. Contour™ clay can be sculpted or worked by hand and applied to fixtures of any size, from small miniatures to giant monuments and memorials. Contour™ Clay scales beautifully without sacrificing sharp edges or quality. The warm grey colour helps see profile lines and surface textures when sculpting. Ultra fine detailing is most effective with clay at room temperature (72°F/23°C).

Its higher temperature resistance makes Contour™ Clay resistant to deformation when working in warmer studio environments for year-round modelling projects. When softened, this clay series has a buttery soft consistency similar to sulphur clay but remains silicone friendly for mould making. Heated Contour™ clay can be easily smeared or trowelled onto cut EPS foam and mixed material fixtures for use as a mouldable coating.

GENERAL PROCESSING RECOMMENDATIONS:

WORKING WITH THE CLAY

Contour™ clay is not self-supporting, so it may be necessary to make a fixture for figurative work. must be made for figurative work. Traditional wood, plastic, metal and silicone clay tools are recommended for working with the clay. Heated tools (such as a wax pen) or heated tools can be used with the Contour™ clay series but these clays, however, do not liquefy when using heat.

SMOOTHING THE CLAY SURFACE

Clay scrapers and rakes are often used to even out the clay surface. Contour™ Clays are very solvent-friendly; Solvents such as naphtha, turpentine and white spirit are aggressive solvents that can be used to quickly soften and dissolve the surface. Citrus-based solvents such as D-limonene can also be used, but may cause inhibition when forming the clay with silicone rubber.

99% Isopropyl alcohol can be used to smooth the clay surface if a less aggressive solvent effect is desired.

NOTE: If isopropyl myristate is used on the surface of Contour™ clay, the surface remains soft and will not return to its original hardness. not return to its original hardness.

MAKE A SLIP OR SLURRY

Solvents such as naphtha, strong spirit and turpentine can also be used to dissolve the clay into a workable slip or slurry. This liquid solution can then be used to create texture effects, join clay together or coat clay surfaces. Contour™ clay cannot be heated to a castable liquid form. Heated Contour™ clay can be brushed into silicone moulds to make castings. silicone moulds to make castings.

TECHNICAL OVERVIEW:

Colour:	Warm grey
Hardness Shore A:	Soft 19
	Medium 24
	Hard 34



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Adhesive level:	Low
Washability:	Medium
Specific gravity:	Soft 1.55 g/cm ³ Average 1.55 g/cm ³ Hard 1.55 g/cm ³
Temperature to soften:	Soft 135°F/57°C Average 140°F/60°C Hard 145°F/63°C
Temperature to trowel:	Soft 170°F/77°C Average 170°F/77°C Hard 170°F/77°C
Temperature to brush:	Soft 185°F/85°C Average 185°F/85°C Hard 185°F/85°C
Maximum temperature:	185°F/85°C

CLEANING:

Contour™ clay can be cleaned from tools and surfaces with naphtha or 99 isopropyl alcohol. Clay can adhere to fabrics and stain clothing.

SOFTENING / TROWELLING / BRUSHING:

Heating equipment Options

- Crock Pots® with temperature control
- Scientific/Laboratory Oven
- Hot Box with conventional temperature monitor
- Dedicated warming oven for clay (do not use at home)
- Microwave ovens are NOT recommended due to uneven heating and possible burning.

SOFTEN THE CLAY

Contour™ clay is usually heated to a temperature (Soft = 135°F/57°C; Medium = 140°F/60°C; Hard = 145°F/63°C) to make it softer. When the clay returns to room temperature, it also regains its original firmness.

WORKING THE CLAY

Contour™ clay can also be heated until it is soft enough to spread over the surface. (Soft = 77°C, Medium = 170°F/77°C; Hard = 170°F/77°C. As these temperatures are very hot and can cause burns, a metal trowel (or similar spreader) is needed to apply the hot clay safely. When trowelled, a clay can be easily spread over a vertical armature surface with minimal to no sagging in a thickness of ¼ inch (1.27 cm).

BRUSHING THE CLAY

Contour™ clay at (soft = 185°F/85°C; medium = 185°F/85°C; hard = 185°F/85°C) is considered the brushing temperature of the clay. brushing temperature of the clay. This temperature gives a lower viscosity (thinner) clay, suitable for first coating on fixtures or other surfaces that can be applied with a brush. A small-scale test against surfaces to check suitability is always recommended.

HOLDING:

Unopened: stored at room temperature and away from sunlight or UV sources, it has a shelf life of 2 years. See www.chavant.com for more information

Opened: over time, clay exposed to air will oxidise and the surface may eventually dry out. After opening, place the clay in an airtight container or wrap it completely in plastic wrap and store it away from sunlight or UV sources.



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SAFETY FIRST:

Keep out of reach of children.

Avoid overheating the clay, this leads to severe burns on the skin. Wash hands after use.

The Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for this or any other Chavant product should be read before use and is available on request. All products are safe to use if the instructions are carefully read and followed.

Important: The information in this bulletin is believed to be accurate. However, no warranty is given or implied as to the accuracy of the data, the results to be obtained from its use, or that such use will not infringe a patent. The user must determine the suitability of the product for its intended use and assumes all risk and liability in connection therewith.