

THE FACTS



Plasters

Plasters are building material used for the protective or decorative coating of walls and for molding and casting decorative elements.

Hazards:

- Dust from mixing is irritating to the eyes and respiratory system.
- Silica sand and vermiculite added to plaster for texture are highly toxic by inhalation.
- Carving of plaster may pose hazards to the eye from flying chips.
- When casting body parts in plaster, severe burns may result from the heat produced during setting.



Safety:

- Provide and review safety data sheets for all chemicals used.
- Mix plasters under ventilated hood.
- Vacuum or mop plaster dust.
- Carve or cut away from your body.
- If a tool falls, do not attempt to catch it.
- Wear safety goggles when chipping plaster.
- Do not cast body parts unless provisions have been made for heat dissipation. Provide a barrier between the skin and casting material.

Occupational and Environmental Safety (OES) is a team of dedicated professionals who provide safety and compliance services to support Clemson University's core mission of research, teaching and public service. We accomplish this through collaboration and partnerships with the Clemson community and are committed to continuous improvement and exceptional customer service.

For more information on OES website: <https://www.clemson.edu/finops/oes/index.html>