Vacuum Forming – Quick Guide

Purpose

Vacuum forming is a process where a **plastic sheet is heated**, **stretched over a mold**, and **shaped by a vacuum**. It is used to create **permanent plastic objects**, **molds**, **and protective covers**.

Equipment

At the Prototype Center, we use the **Formech 508FS vacuum former**, which allows you to create molds.

It can be combined with **3D-printed casts** to produce custom forms or multiple copies of

your designs.



Before Use

- **Read the Formech 508FS manual** carefully before operating the machine.
- Make sure you understand the **heating**, **vacuum**, **and cooling steps** before starting your project.

Good Practice

- Always **monitor the heating process** to avoid overheating the plastic.
- Allow the formed plastic to **cool completely** before removing it from the mold.
- Clean the machine and workspace after use to maintain good working conditions.

Resources

- Formech 508FS Product Page
- Formech 508FS Manual
- How to Use the Machine Formech Guide