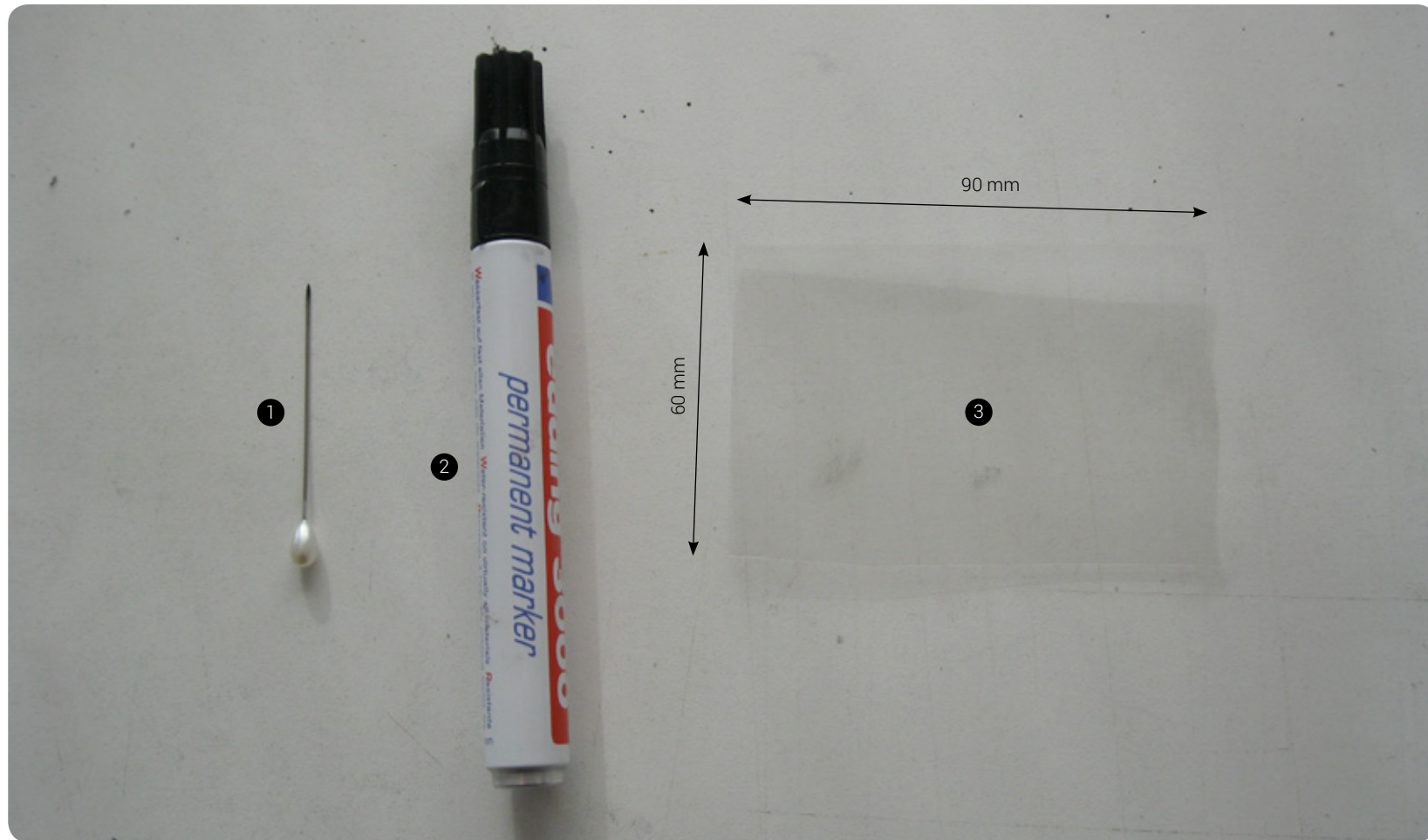


Necessary for the production of a negative film with no computer



- 1 - needle
- 2 - black marker (permanent)
- 3 - piece of transparent polyester sheet

Creating a negative film with no computer



1 - cover the surface of the sheet of transparent polyester with the black marker.



2 - produce a solid black as opaque and homogeneous as possible.

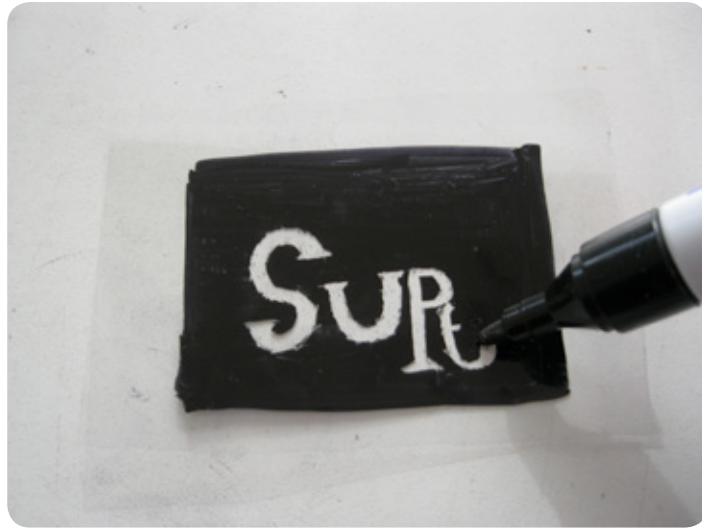


3 - wait **1 minute** till the marker solid black ink dries, then scrape the solid black surface with the tip of the needle to draw the pattern.



4 - clean transparent areas of the design are as good as possible.

Creating a negative film with no computer



5 - it is possible to correct the pattern with the same black marker.



6 - to hide unwanted items.



7 - wait **1 minute** that the black marker ink dries, then correct again scraping the surface with the tip of the needle.

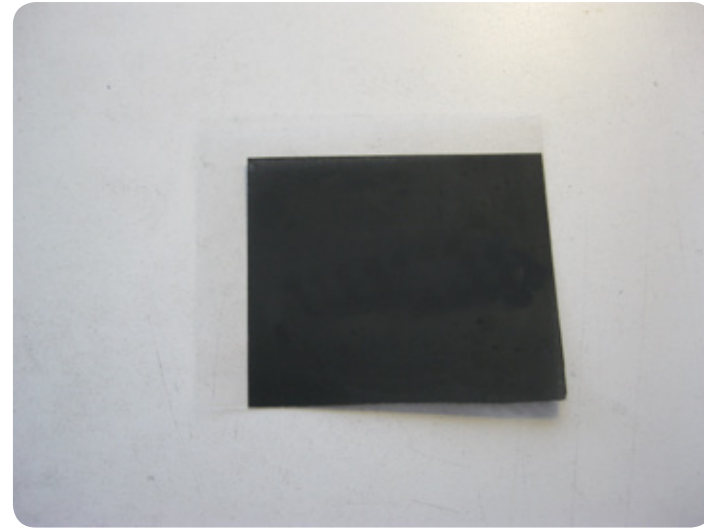


8 - when all corrections are done, the negative film is ready to be used.

Alternative to produce a solid black surface for the negative film



1 - print a black page (next page of this tutorial) on a transparent polyester sheet with a black-and-white laser printer.



2 - cut a piece of the black page that has just been printed, as wide and high as the pattern that you want to draw.



3 - then scrape the solid black surface (matte side of the sheet) with the tip of the needle, to draw the pattern.



4 - in the same way, as in the *creating negative film with no computer* tutorial, it is also possible to correct scraping mistakes with a black marker (permanent).

Necessary for making polymer stamps

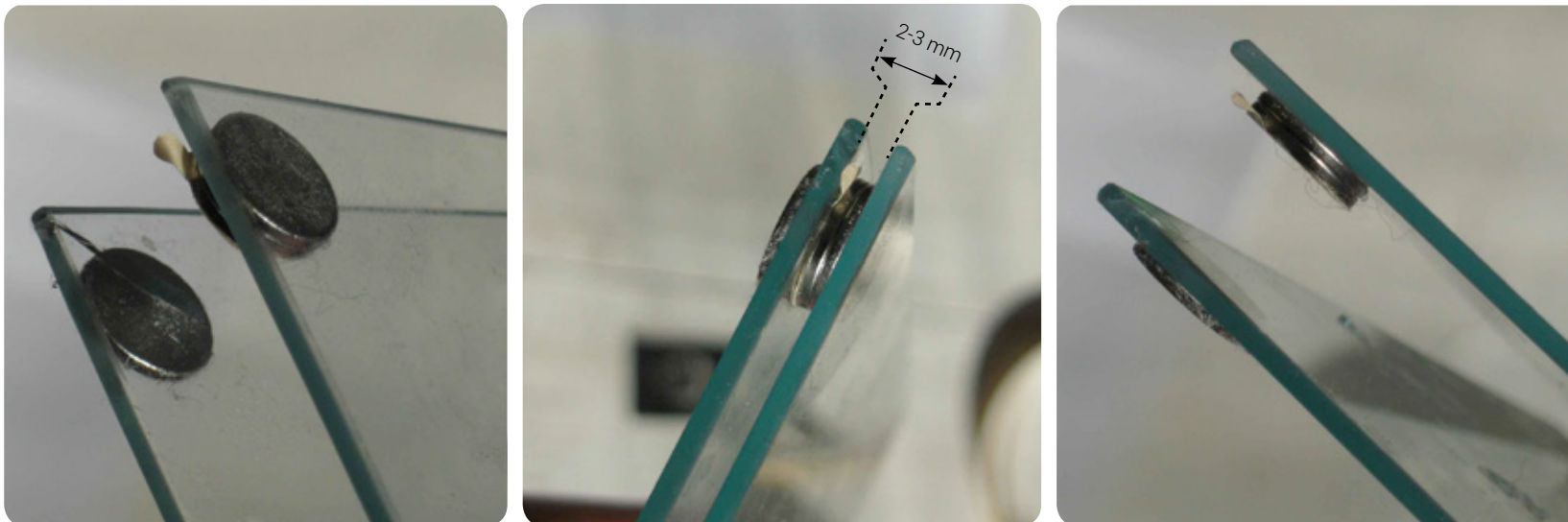


- 1 - 100 ml syringe for dosing the photopolymer
- 2 - semi-opaque matt polyester sheets
- 3 - transparent polyester sheets
- 4 - timer that indicates the seconds
- 5 - negative film of the pattern
- 6 - fluid photopolymer

- 7 - UV lamp (used in manicure)
- 8 - two glass plates (which fit inside the UV lamp) equipped with small magnets
- 9 - door and window insulating seal (4 mm thick)
- 10 - washer liquid
- 11 - scissors
- 12 - pair of rubber gloves

- 13 - bucket of water (2 liters are sufficient)
- 14 - pair of old toothbrushes
- 15 - small tupperware container (which fit inside the UV lamp)
- 16 - cloth
- 17 - talc
- 18 - inking pad

Details for fixing magnets on the glass plates

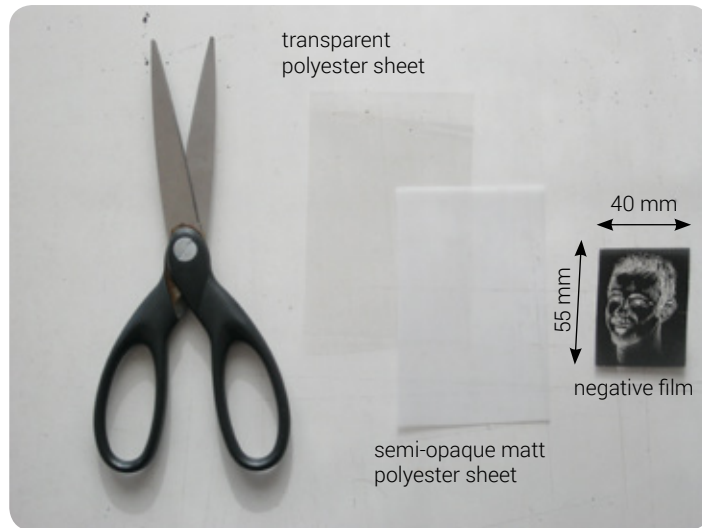


1 magnet is fixed in each corner on the first glass plate.

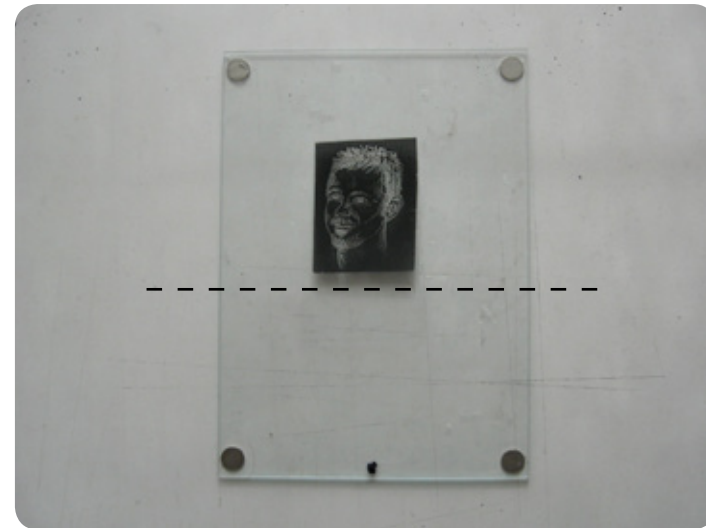
In each corner on the second glass plate, 2 magnets are fixed and packed on top of one another, in order to keep the distance (circa 2-3 mm) between to the 2 plates when these are laying on top of each other.

One magnet is circa 1 mm thick with a 10 mm diameter

Making a polymer stamp



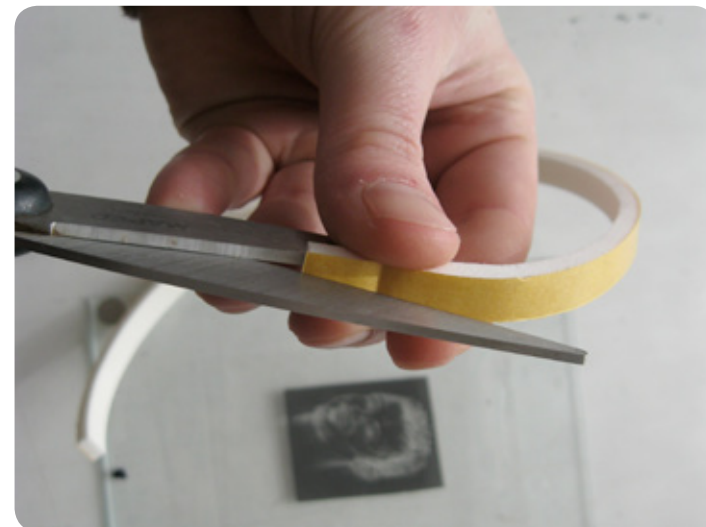
1 - cut a piece of semi-opaque matt polyester sheet and a piece of transparent polyester sheet, a bit larger than the negative film size (done previously, see the relevant tutorials).



2 - lay down the negative film on one of the two glass plates, in the upper half.

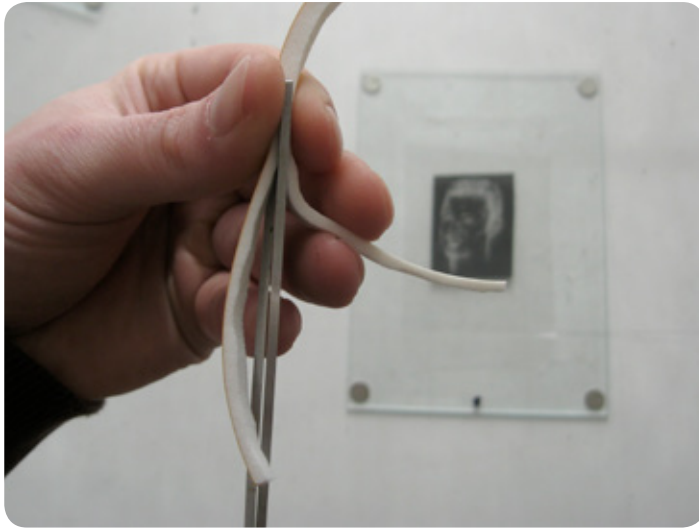


3 - lay down the piece of transparent polyester on the negative film



4 - cut the door and window insulating seal (n°9 in the necessary list) in 2 strips (circa 3 mm wide)

Making a polymer stamp



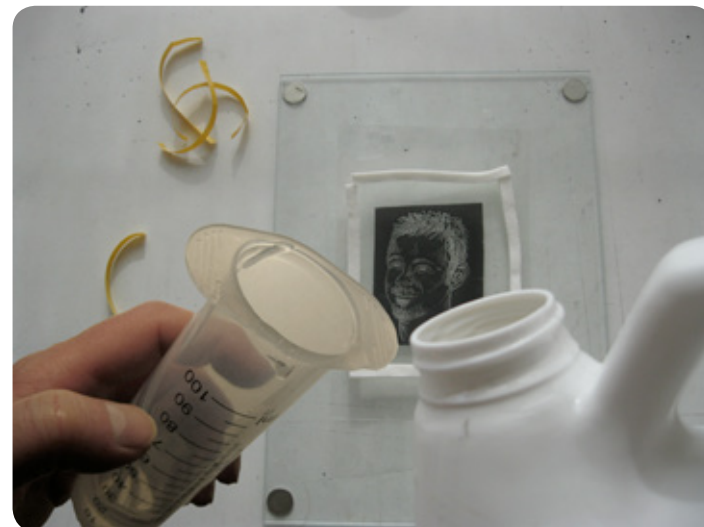
5 - halve the thickness of the previously cut strips and keep only the part with adhesive.



6 - cut strips length so that the pattern on the negative film can be framed by the strips with a margin of at least 5-10 mm.

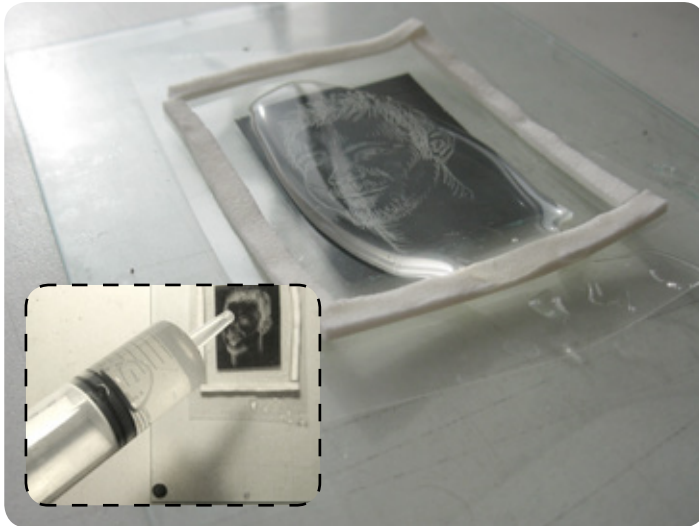


7 - stick the strips on the transparent polyester sheet previously placed on the negative film.

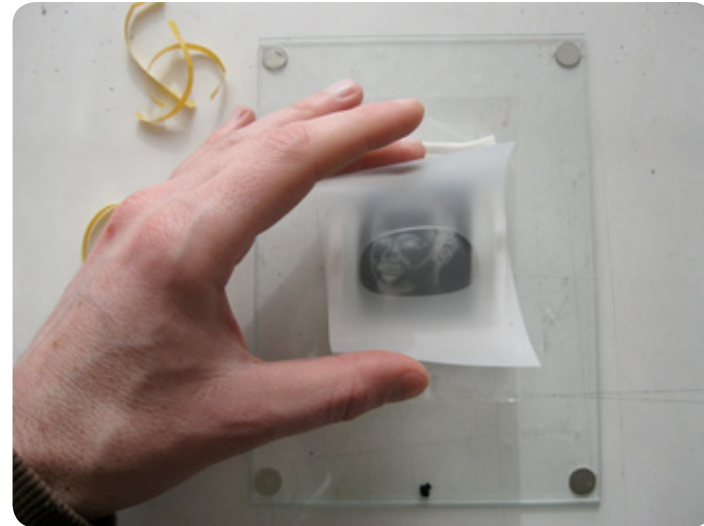


8 - fill the syringe with photopolymer (circa 40 ml). If the manipulator has sensitive skin (allergie. .), it is advisable to wear gloves. The photopolymer can cause skin irritations.

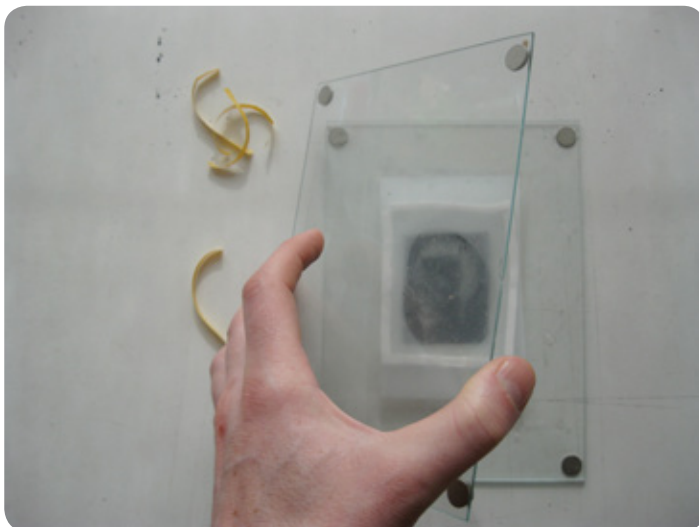
Making a polymer stamp



9 - try to dose the amount of photopolymer, so that it doesn't overflow too much when the second glass plate will be placed on the top of the films and photopolymer «sandwich».



10 - lay down the piece of semi-opaque matt polymer sheet on the top of the fluid photopolymer, covering also the the seal strips frame.

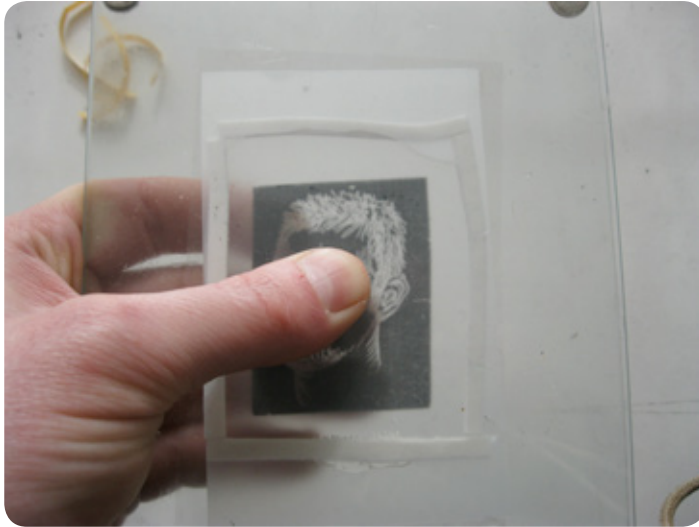


11 - lay down the second glass plate on the top all.



12 - when the second glass plate is laying, check that the all is well fixed and adjusted through the magnets.

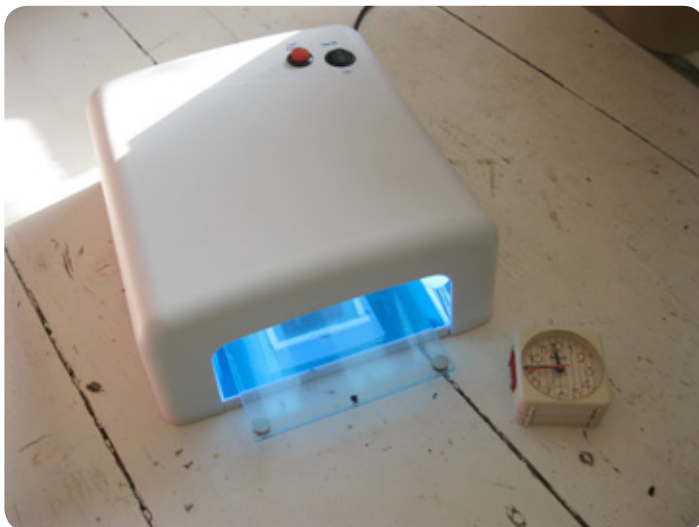
Making a polymer stamp



13 - if the pattern on negative film is not completely covered by the fluid photopolymer, press lightly locally on the glass plate in order to spread the liquid. The space between the two glass plates should be about 3 mm.



14 - then place the two glass plates and their content inside the UV lamp. The **negative film** has to appear placed **under** the piece of semi-opaque matt polyester sheet.



15 - turn on the UV lamp, wait **55 secondes** then turn it off. The time is set according to my tests and can vary from a few seconds, depending on lamps power or thickness of the photopolymer layer.

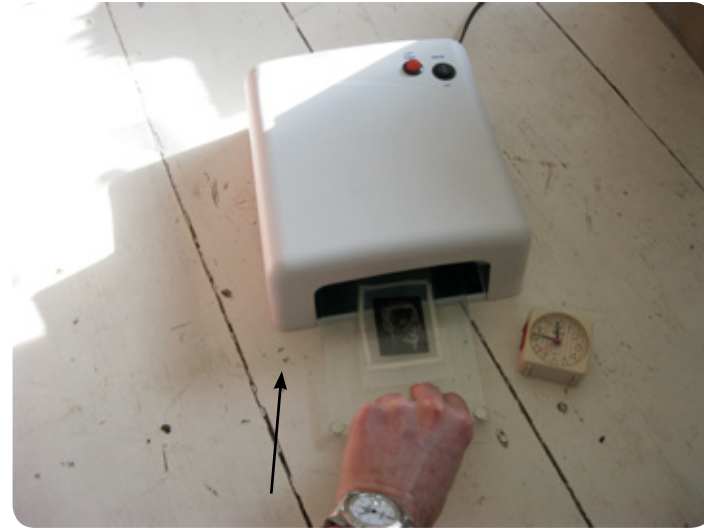


16 - take the two glass plates and their content outside the UV lamp.

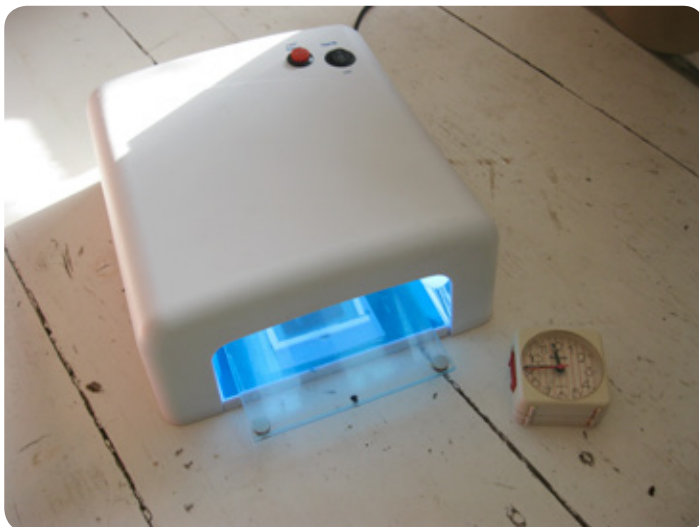
Making a polymer stamp



17 - rotate the two glass plates and their content, so that the negative film is located **over** the piece of semi-opaque matt polyester sheet.



18 - place the two glass plates and their content inside the UV lamp again. The **negative film** has to appear placed **over** the piece of semi-opaque matt polyester sheet.

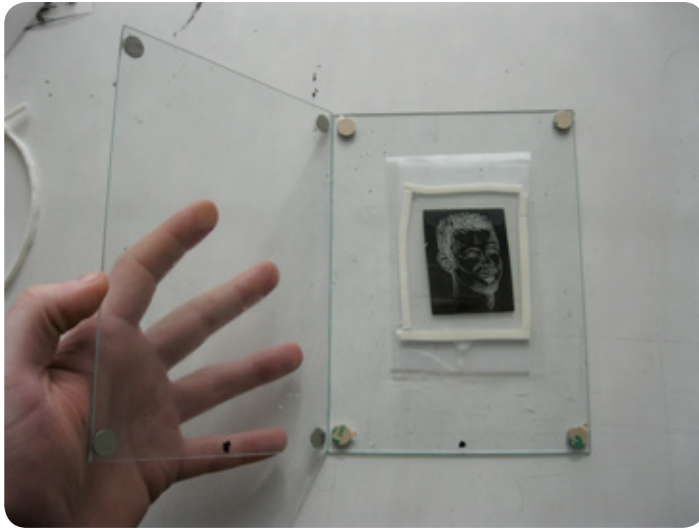


19 - turn on the UV lamp, wait **40 secondes** then turn it off. The time is set according to my tests and can vary from a few seconds, depending on lamps power or thickness of the photopolymer layer.



20 - take the two glass plates and their content outside the UV lamp.

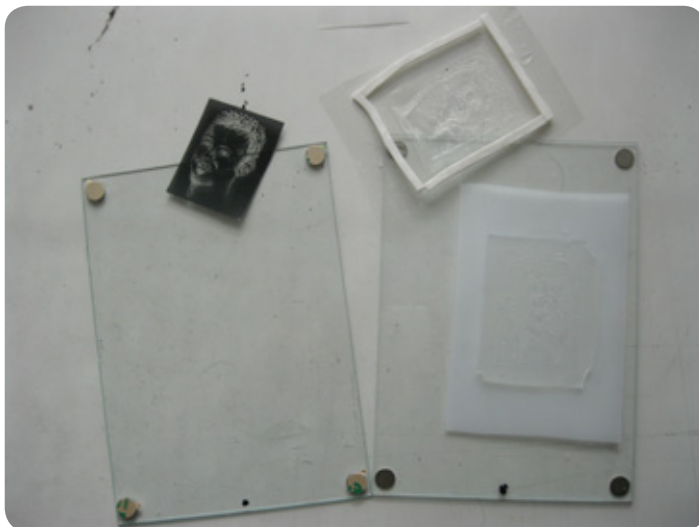
Making a polymer stamp



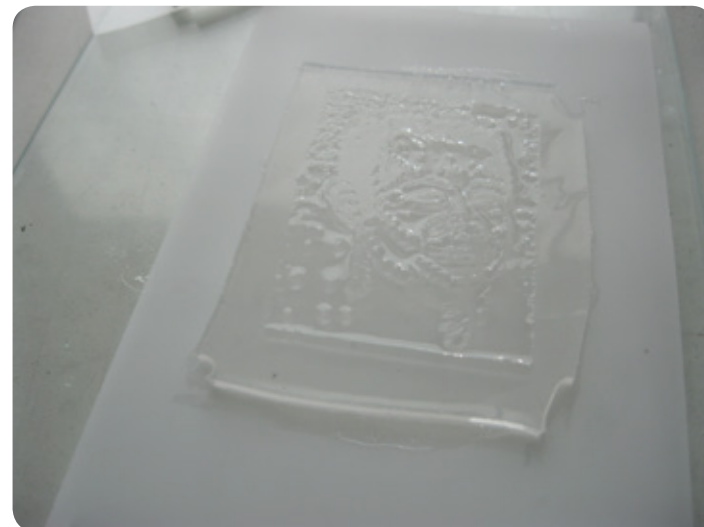
21 - open the two glass plates.



22 - remove the negative film, then gently peel off the piece of transparent polyester sheet from UV hardened photopolymer. The hardened photopolymer must remain stuck to the piece of semi-opaque matt polyester sheet.



23 - the piece of transparent polyester sheet with its sealing strips is completely peeled off, and can be reused for the production of other stamps.

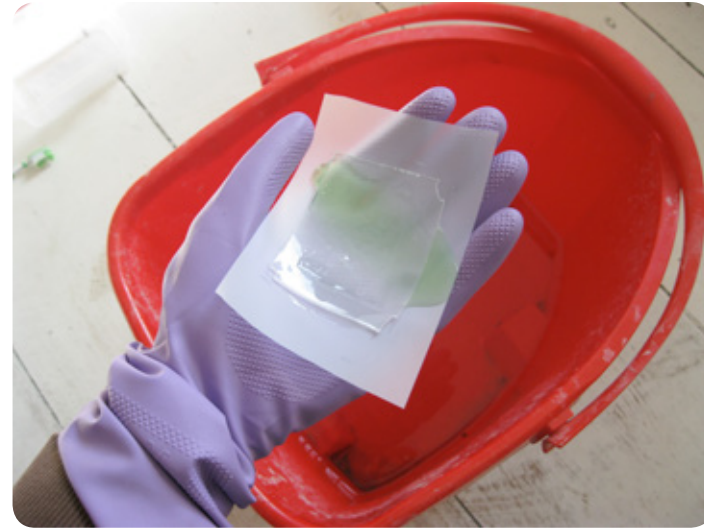


24 - the stamp pattern begins to emerge.

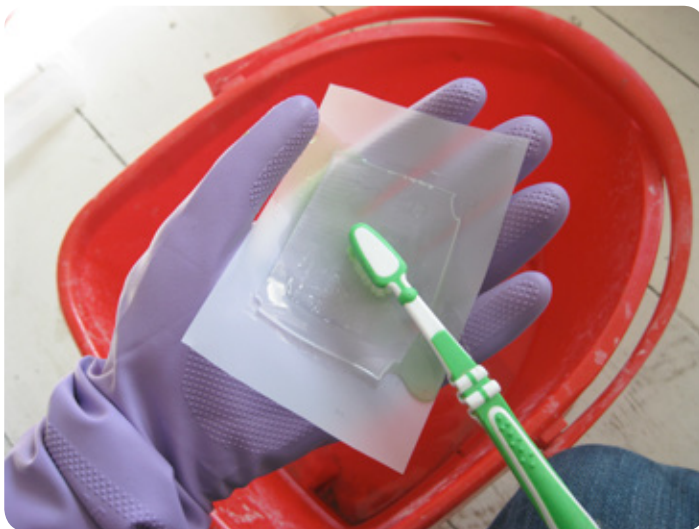
Making a polymer stamp



25 - put the glove and lay down the piece of hardened photopolymer on it. The remained fluid photopolymer is pretty tacky.



26 - pour some washer liquid on the piece of hardened photopolymer.



27 - gently brush the surface of the piece of hardened photopolymer, in order to mix the washer liquid with the rest of remained fluid photopolymer.

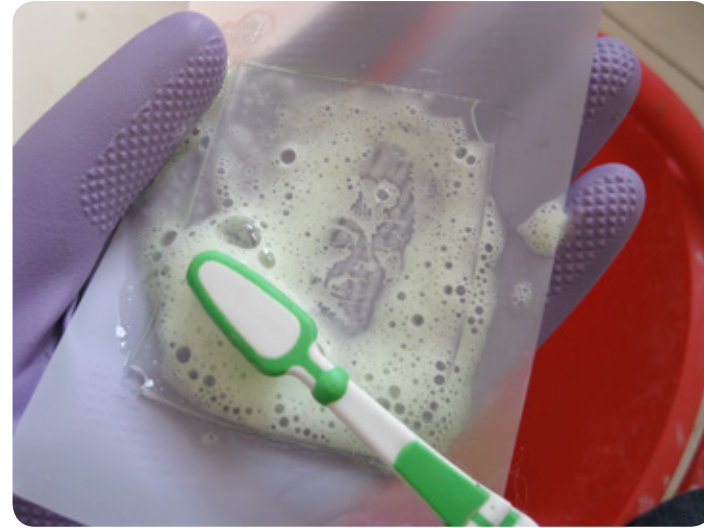


28 - the mixture of washer liquid with the rest of remained fluid photopolymer create a white foam. The shape of the stamp pattern becomes to be more clear.

Making a polymer stamp



29 - rinse the white foam by dipping the piece of hardened photopolymer in the bucket of water and by passing the thumb on the hardened photopolymer surface.



30 - take the piece of hardened photopolymer out of the water and carry on brushing gently its surface.



31 - rinse again the white foam, in the same way as previously.



32 - take the piece of hardened photopolymer out of the water. It should have a semi-opaque appearance without white smudges (mixture remains of washer liquid with fluid photopolymer) or almost.

Making a polymer stamp



33 - dry the piece of hardened photopolymer with the cloth.



34 - cut off the superfluous hardened photopolymer part to keep only the piece with the pattern.



35 - put the piece of hardened photopolymer with the pattern into the water, contained in the small tupperware container (half full filled with water).



36 - place the small tupperware container and its content **carefully** inside the UV lamp, without overflowing water.

Making a polymer stamp



37 - turn the UV lamp on, turn it off after **3 minutes**.



38 - take the small tupperware container and its content **carefully** outside the UV lamp, without overflowing water.



39 - take the piece of hardened photopolymer with the pattern out of the water.

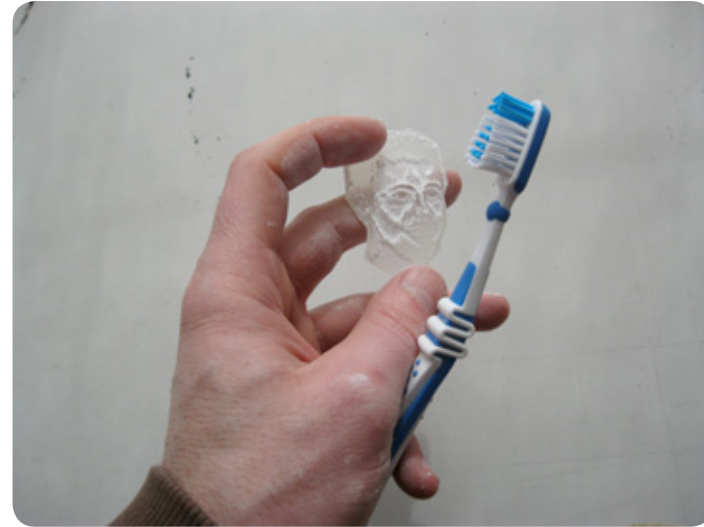


40 - dry it with the cloth.

Making a polymer stamp



41 - put some talc on the piece of hardened photopolymer surface, spreading it with the fingers, in order to eliminate the last smudges of stickiness and water.



42 - eliminate talc smudges from the piece of hardened photopolymer with the second toothbrush (dry), gently brushing its surface.



43 - the stamp is now ready.



44 - press the stamp on the ink pad and make the first tests! If it's satisfying, stick the stamp on a support (wooden cube, for example ...) to get a better grip.