

LOW COST PRODUCTS CAN PROJECT HIGHER VALUE



By Tom Zaleske

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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wonderadmix+ wondergloss

For a video demonstrating this technique visit: bit.ly/TomZale

The theme of many of my articles involves projecting quality and value in the dental restorations we fabricate. In many instances very obvious ways to enhance the value in our work can come from very low labor and low cost enhancements. Dental Creations out of Texas is a company I have found that offers low cost products which allow

Dental Creations offers several products which not only provide better accuracy of the models, but also provide a higher level of presentation quality without costing an arm and a leg.

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for the kind of obvious but neglected ways to enhance the value of our restorations.

In many dental laboratories model work is one of the most neglected procedures in regard to value projection. What many owners don't realize is the value of our work even at the most rudimentary level begins to establish the way in which our businesses are perceived in comparison to our competitors by our dental clients. Simple things like model polish, neatness of the mounting, condition of the models in regard to abrasions, bubbles, and strength set a bar that others must conform to in order to remain equal in comparison.

of the models used in the case fabrication.

In my laboratory Wondergloss (Fig.1) is a model glossing agent which I paint on to opposing models, or master models which are used to fit finish provisional and flexible partials on. The application of the product provides not only a glossy surface, but also fortifies and provides a smooth surface on models which I will repeatedly fit and remove frames from. (Fig.2)

Additionally, I have found that brushing Wondergloss over identification numbers, names or model base markings such as alveolar

Continued on back.



A SHINE SO BRIGHT, YOU GOTTA WEAR SHADES!

Figure 1

Straight from the bottle, do not shake before using. Ideally, proportionate a smaller amount into a container and add when needed from main bottle. This will limit air exposure of the larger amount. Thin coats work better than sloppy dripping ones.



Figure 2

Used in conjunction with Wonderadmix, Wondergloss provides a smooth, abrasion and chip resistant surface ideal for repeated fit adjustments over abutments on master models. Using Wonderadmix alone for reinforcing models used in processing flexible resin partials provides a stronger, smoother, working model.

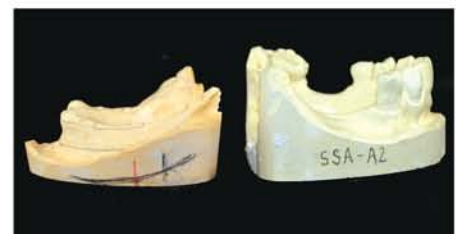


Figure 3

A quick wipe of Wondergloss over names, tooth mold numbers, and landmarks such as ridge tracings, provides an economic, neat, smudge free way to preserve reference information needed at your fingertips.



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ridge tracings (Fig.3) provides a smudge free, water resistant, low cost way to preserve them during the repeated handling of the models. (Fig. 4) In order to get around the necessity to dry models before application of Wondergloss, I have found that by constructing a low cost drying box made from a dollar store storage container and an inexpensive hand held hair dryer I have shortened the process of model drying and the drying of multiple coats to a 10-15 minute chore. Similarly, I have also used an inexpensive food dehydrator for the accelerated drying processes as well. (Fig. 5,5b)

Wonderadmix is another product I use to enhance and fortify my model work. This product replaces plain water with a formulated additive which is mixed with water to enhance existing properties of the stone. The large bottle supplied with Wonderadmix comes empty, as the product is actually contained in the syringe which is added to the bottle along with regular tap water. This saves greatly on the cost of shipping premixed gallons of the product. (Fig. 6)

Noticeable improvements in the flowing property of the stone without the use of a debubbler, smoothness of surface texture, and reflection of detail are evident when compared to models made with plain water. (Fig. 7, 7b) I also use this product when capping or performing a secondary pour of stone into a closed, bolted flask such as the ones used in injection and some microwave systems. (Fig. 8) I fabricate my partial denture models

with stone fortified with Wonderadmix because I want to protect models against chipping and breakage during the numerous handling steps involved in the fabrication of alloy and flexible resin frames.

With two simple and inexpensive products I can not only improve the presentation quality of the work my lab produces, but also, more importantly enhance the overall quality of the work by eliminating factors which cause remakes and lower quality, by fabricating on smooth, strength fortified, master models for just pennies a case. (Fig. 9)



Figure 4
Once Wondergloss is dry, the coating provides a water resistant sealing of information penciled on the model surface.



Figure 5
A simple drying box constructed from a dollar store box and a hair dryer shortens the drying time of models and the coatings of Wondergloss to 10-15 minutes. Holes cut on sides allow for air flow thru and also prevents thermal sensor from overheating on dryer.



Figure 5b
A food dehydrator is also an easy, economic way to speed up model and Wondergloss drying. It also comes in handy for drying separator coated denture flask molds.



Figure 6
Wonderadmix is supplied in the syringe. The bottle is empty but holds the correct amount of water when filled for the correct ratio for the syringe amount. It also means the shipping charges do not reflect a gallon of liquid in weight but rather a syringe and an empty bottle. Shake well each time before measuring out liquid to make a model.



Figures 7 & 7b
Measurements for an average model are 150gr of stone to 50ml of Wonderadmix. Consistency of stone when mixed for models or capping is smooth, creamy, and easy flowing. Slight vibration immediately causes it to flow.



Figure 8
Bolted injection flask necessitating capping pour made through a hole in top. Since you cannot see inside the flask, it is very critical that the pour be smooth, flowing, and bubble free to provide a complete and accurate fill.



Figure 9
The value projection for every case starts with boxed, smooth, clean, accurate models. It doesn't take a fortune in products, just the correct products.