



Decorative & Ornamental Plastering Ltd

Workshop Notes 2020

Plain cornices / mouldings

SITE SQUEEZE TO FINISHED ARTICLE - PLAIN

1. On receipt of the squeeze from site, the first step is to cut a straight line the section to give us a definitive line to work to.
2. A piece of zinc is then cut to size, the squeeze placed on top and a line drawn around the profile.
3. Using a combination of curved and straight tin strips and a scribe, the profile is cut.
4. The profile is then cut out with a jigsaw and the zinc is attached to the ply with panel pins. This is called the stock.
5. The stock is now fixed at a right angle to another piece of ply. This is now called a running mould (or horse).
6. A straight running rule is then fixed along the work bench, usually around 3.5 metres in length.
7. Plaster is poured along the bench and the running mould is pulled through it to define where the mould is to be run.
8. Canvas that has been soaked in plaster to build the rough shape of the mould is now laid on the bench and plaster is gradually poured over.
9. By adding more plaster and running the mould over, the shape of the mould starts to form. The process is repeated until the plaster becomes hard and the mould is complete. The actual running process usually takes around 30 minutes, depending on the size of the mould.
10. Now that the mould is complete, 3 coats of shellac are brushed on to seal the plaster. A thin layer of tallow is applied as a release agent.
11. A cast can now be produced from the reverse mould by coating the mould with a generous layer of fine casting plaster (the firstings).
12. Once semi-set, more plaster is added, reinforced with canvas and timber laths for strength.
13. Once set, the cast is removed and can now be sent to site to be installed, perfectly matching the existing / remaining cornice.