

How is a Lilliput Lane Cottage made?

Research



Sculpting



Sculpting



Wax in silicone to create first block mould



Every Lilliput Lane cottage goes through many processes before it reaches you. Over the years we have developed a multitude of highly specialised techniques, which capture the fine detail for which our cottages have become famous.

Here are just some of the processes which make a Lilliput Lane cottage so special:

Research

Every Lilliput Lane Cottage begins life as a series of sketches inspired by the hundreds of photographs taken by our sculptors during research trips over the years. Sculptors also refer to a huge library of books during their research as well.

Sculpting

From these sketches, an intricate wax original sculpture forms the master. This stage may take many weeks as every tile, slate and flower is individually applied by hand to build up the different textures and details.

Mould making and Tooling

Up to forty different processes then follow to produce a complex series of moulds from the original sculpture. There is no room for error here, as the original wax sculpture is lost during the process!

Casting

The flexible silicone-rubber moulds are then used to cast faithful replicas of the wax original in a specially licensed material called Amorphite™. Once set, the moulds can then be carefully removed to reveal every last detail.

Dipping

As Amorphite is a very porous material, each piece is dipped in a special sealant before being painted. Real buildings inspire our cottages and every care is therefore taken to ensure that we reflect the materials used to build the real house from which our model was inspired, so we have developed a wide range of coloured dips to seal each porous cast before painting.

Painting

To ensure the authenticity of each piece, up to thirty different colourways can be tried before a 'master' is chosen for each cottage. Each highly skilled painter then has to match each of his or her painted models to these 'masters' to ensure that each cottage is consistent.

Finishing

Finally, cottages are baized and labelled, before a final quality check ensures that they leave Lilliput Lane in perfect condition.



Filling master moulds with resin



A thin film of molten plastic is built up layer by layer



Deep inside the master-making mould



The mould is carefully stripped from the master



Painting