

SU-8 Molding and PDMS Casting

The SU-8 mold fabrication process (**prefer slower rather than faster**):

1. The preparation of the wafer:
 - a. Clean (Piranha or acetone/IPA/DI), dehydration, and optional wetting/adhesion enhancement
2. The spin coating of the negative SU-8 photoresist
 - a. **For thick layer, manually add and spread SU-8 onto the wafer, then let it sit quietly long enough before loading the wafer onto the spin coater**
 - b. **Wipe and clean the edge and backside of the wafer by acetone after coating**
3. The soft bake (1st baking)
4. The edge bead removal (optional)
 - a. **Wipe and clean the edge and backside of the wafer by acetone before exposing**
5. The UV exposure
6. The Post exposure bake (2nd baking)
7. The development
8. The hard bake (3rd baking) (optional)
9. The checking measures
10. The silanization
 - a. **Holding (stop vacuum pump) for 1 hour before venting**

The PDMS casting process:

1. The scaling and mixing of the PDMS and the curing agent
 - a. **Put first the PDMS and then the curing agent**
2. The degassing to remove bubbles
3. The PDMS pouring on the mold
 - a. **Bottom: the mold wafer; side wall: tape**
4. The PDMS baking
 - a. **Holding PDMS by above container**
5. The PDMS peeling off the mold
 - a. **PDMS sticks: poor silanization**
6. The PDMS cutting and piercing
7. The PDMS bonding

