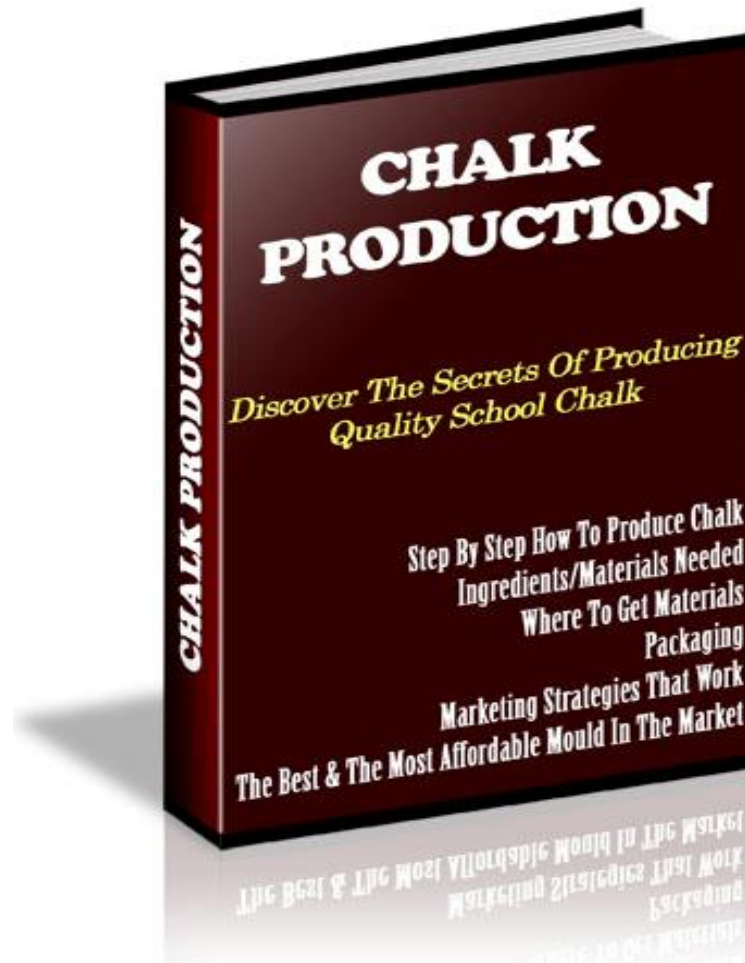


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BY

PETER AMULE
www.NigeriaBusinessPortal.com
www.ChalkMouldNigeria.com
www.VisaDirectNigeria.com

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For questions, comments and suggestions, the author can be contacted on 08058047663, 07035349902. You can also send an email to info@NigeriaBusinessPortal.com.

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Chalk is used in schools and other learning establishments to write on the board. The demand for chalk is high and this has made its production a goldmine. Chalk is very easy to produce; you only need three ingredients to produce it. The ingredients are readily available in the market and are very cheap. You don't need electricity NEPA/PHCN; you don't need generator. The only thing you need apart from the chemicals is the mould into which you will pour your chemicals which will later become chalk.

CHEMICALS/MATERIALS NEEDED TO PRODUCE CHALK

- Plaster of Paris (POP)
- Calcium Carbonate
- Water

Plaster of Paris is the most important component in chalk making; it can be said to be the chalk itself. Calcium Carbonate is filler which is added to increase the quantity of POP while water is needed for mixing the two materials and making a paste out of them.

STEP BY STEP HOW TO MAKE CHALK

- Add 3 kg of Plaster of Paris and 1 kg of calcium carbonate together and keep it in a plastic bucket with cover
- Take 350g of Plaster of Paris and calcium carbonate prepared in step one and add it to 300g of cold clean water. Mix properly with your hand and make sure that the mixture is not watery and at the same time not too thick.

Warning: The resulting solution must be used immediately. It cannot be kept; it must be poured into the mould immediately otherwise it is wasted.

HOW TO POUR THE SOLUTION INTO THE MOULD

- Wash all the pieces of the mould very well with water
- Couple the mould together with the provided treaded rod and make sure they are tightly closed to avoid leakages.
- Pour the solution into the mould. Shake the mould and use your hand to guide the solution as you are pouring to ensure that it gets to bottom of the mould and fill it properly. The solution should be poured at the centre of the mould.

Note: Couple the mould together before preparing the solution.

HOW TO REMOVE CHALK FROM THE MOULD

- Allow the solution to stay in the mould for 15 – 20 minutes for the first stage of drying to take place
- Unscrew the nut and open the mould one after the other
- Remove the first layer, bend it slightly backward to release the chalk from the mould
- After the chalk is a bit free, use your hand to remove it one by one
- Follow this step with the other layers of the mould till the last layer
- Arrange the chalk in a tray for drying

Note: Get the tray ready before removing chalk from the mould.

HOW TO DRY YOUR CHALK

There are two methods of drying chalk namely natural method and artificial method.

Natural Method – This method involves the use of sun to dry your chalk. You simply spread the chalk in the sun for it to dry. The only problem with this method is that it takes a longer time for chalk to dry in raining season.

Artificial Method – This method involves the use of oven to dry your chalk.

NOTE: To make colour chalk, simply add colour (water soluble) to the mixture. You can get colour at Ojota chemical market, Ojota Lagos or Ilesa chemical market, Ilesa along Mile 2 – Oshodi Expressway, Lagos. If you are outside Lagos, look for chemical markets in your place.

HOW TO PACKAGE YOUR CHALK

Chalk is packaged in two ways – Light packaging and hard packaging. ***Light packaging*** is whereby you package your chalk in transparent polythene bags with your brand name and other information printed on it. ***Hard packaging*** is whereby you package your chalk in small boxes with your brand name and contact information on the boxes.

MARKETING YOUR CHALK

Your focus should be bookshops, crèches, nursery schools, primary schools, secondary schools, tutorial colleges, continuing education centres, private lessons, technical schools, higher institutions etc. you can also supply market women, mallams and other petty traders.

WHERE TO GET CHEMICALS/MATERIALS

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1. Jibowu Bus Stop along Ikorodu road, Lagos. Look for where building materials are sold.
2. Cele Bus Stop along Mile 2 – Oshodi Expressway, Lagos. Look for where building materials are sold.
3. Any other places where building and toilet materials are sold.

If you are outside Lagos, look for where building and toilet materials are sold in your place.

WHERE TO GET MOULD

Mould is an important part of chalk making because if your mould is bad, the resulting product which is chalk will be bad too. You also run the risk of incurring losses and not breaking even if the mould is not made to correct size. Your mould can be fabricated by any fabricator but I strongly advise that you get your mould from us.

Our mould (made in India) is made of rubber which makes it very durable. It is light, made to size (industry standard) and requires no maintenance. With our mould, you can produce 240 pieces of chalk at a time while you can produce only 120 pieces with other moulds. Our mould does not rust or leak like other moulds do over a period of time.

The mould as at the time of writing this manual costs N35,000 only (thirty five thousand naira).

Remain Blessed

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Rubber Chalk Mould

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