

## Types of Products Manufactured This

Vacuum forming is used for many things such as some plastic food holders for example cool whip containers. Also plastic razors. Many things that are made by a vacuum former are plastic.

### Advantages

Many companies use vacuum forming because it is cheap and you can make many at a time.

### Disadvantage

Metal would not work because it would need to be very hot and its easier with plaster or wood.

Most products made this way are plastics, or polymers, and includes objects like the one seen below and many types of packaging.



### Links

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thermoplastics>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polystyrene>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vacuum\\_forming](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vacuum_forming)

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?  
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## VACUUM FORMING



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# WHAT IS VACUUM FORMING?



*This Yogurt case is an example of Polystyrene when formed.*

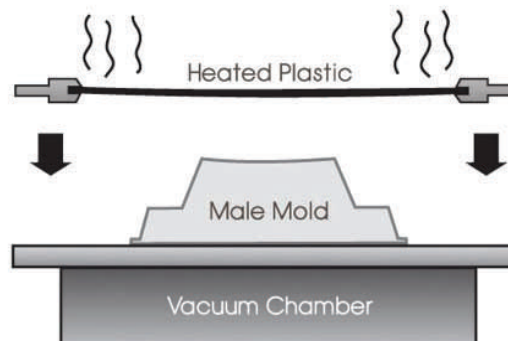
## Raw Materials...

Vacuum formers generally use Thermoplastics. A Thermoplastic is a polymer that turns to liquid when heated and dries to a very glassy look. An example of a Thermoplastic is Polystyrene. This is solid and glassy at room temperature. This is not biodegradable and is abundant in the outdoor environment. Polystyrene is used for many things such as yogurt cups.

## How does this process work?

**Commonly known as vacuum forming, is a simplified version of thermoforming, whereby a sheet of plastic is heated to a forming temperature, stretched onto or into a single-surface mold, and held against the mold by applying vacuum between the mold surface and the sheet.**

Straight Vacuum Forming



**Usually – but not always – restricted to forming plastic parts that are rather shallow in depth. A thin sheet is formed into rigid cavities for unit doses of pharmaceuticals and for loose objects that are carded or presented as point-of-purchase items. Thick sheet is formed into permanent objects such as turnpike signs and protective covers.**