

## Ordnance Gelatin Recycling Procedure

### Equipment Required:

Large kitchen knife

Thermometer

Flexible spatula

Nylon mesh paint strainer (to fit 5-gallon paint bucket)

Large stockpot

Large spoon

5 gallon plastic paint bucket

Gelatin block mould

1. After recovering bullets and large fragments, dice gelatin block into 1-2 inch cubes to promote faster melting.

### NOTE

Although I prefer to use a 16-quart stainless steel stockpot, a 12-quart galvanized pail is adequate for FBI size gelatin blocks (6x6x16").

2. Place gelatin cubes into stockpot(s).
3. Fill bathtub with hot water – no hotter than 130-degrees Fahrenheit. (I usually turn up the temperature of the hot water heater an hour or two beforehand.)

### CAUTION

Do not allow bathtub water to spill into stockpot.

4. Place stockpot(s) with gelatin cubes into bathtub. As gelatin melts, stir solution occasionally. Gelatin cubes completely melt in approximately 1-2 hours.
5. To remove small bullet fragments from gelatin solution, install nylon mesh paint strainer into 5-gallon plastic paint bucket.

### NOTE

Use flexible spatula to recover as much gelatin solution as possible from internal surfaces of stockpot and paint bucket when transferring solution from container to container.

6. When gelatin solution is completely liquefied, pour solution into paint bucket.
7. Remove paint strainer and rinse it clean.
8. Pour gelatin solution into gelatin block mould.
9. Follow normal gelatin block casting practices.

### NOTES

1. In my experience, a recycled gelatin block is not as transparent as a virgin block cast from gelatin powder. It becomes a little cloudier each time it's recycled.
2. A calibration BB does not penetrate as deeply into a recycled gelatin block, apparently due to water loss from evaporation.
3. I recycle a gelatin block no more than 2 times.