

## Gila Replica Care Sheet

The type 1 Gila monster replica (thickened beneath feet) is cast in dental plaster. The thickened area beneath the feet and body is may be submerged below ground level in an area with good drainage. Sand or soil brushed between the toes adds to its realism.

The type 2 Gila monster replica (lizard resting on flat stone) is constructed with a USG statuary plaster that is blended with polymer and synthetic fibers. Type 2 replicas may, if desired, be partially submerged below grown level.

Water based primer and high-grade exterior latex paints are used to create the natural coloration and pattern.

Gila replicas should be kept reasonably dry. The replica is not harmed by normal sprinkler irrigation or rain. However, it should be allowed to dry between irrigation cycles. The model may be damaged if allowed to stand (or be submerged) in water for extended periods of time.

*Optional:* For added protection, you may apply a light mist of a marine spar varnish to the painted portion of the lizard. A clear water-sealer may be applied to the stone portion of the type 2 replica. However, you may want to wait until the stone portion has developed a weathered appearance.

Protect the replica from freezing temperatures. Gila replicas have not been weather tested in freezing conditions.