## **Blow Molding**

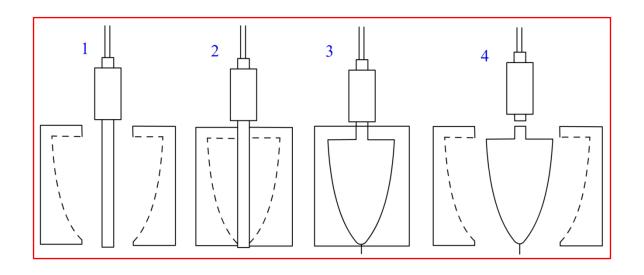
Blow molding is a manufacturing process that is used to produce hollow plastic parts by inflating a heated plastic until it conforms to the mold shape and form the desired product.

## **Blow Molding**

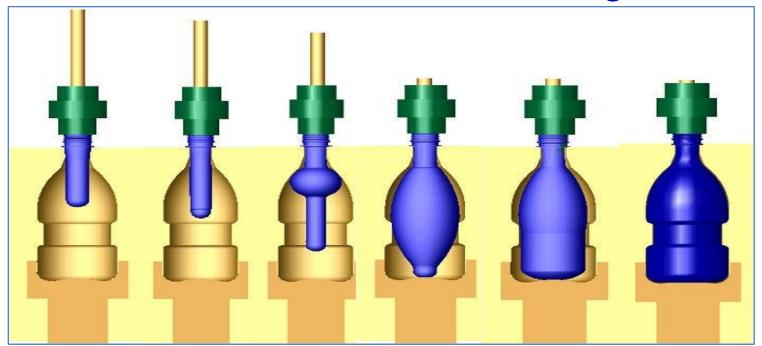
Types of blow molding:

- Extrusion Blow Molding
- Injection Blow Molding
- Stretch Blow Molding

## **Blow Molding**



## Stretch Blow Molding



## **Blow Molding Process**

• The blow molding process begins with melting of the plastic and forming it into a <u>parison or preform</u>, it can be done by extrusion or injection molding.

• The parison is a tube-like piece of plastic with a hole in one end in which compressed air can pass through.

## Blow Molding Process Cont..

• The parison is then clamped into a mold and air is pumped into it.

• The air pressure then pushes the plastic out to match the mold.

 Once the plastic has cooled and hardened, the mold opens up and the part is ejected.

# Blow Molding Animation

Source:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qn16JtE\_vLc

#### **Process Parameters**

- Amount of plastic material
- Melting temperature of plastic material
- Air pressure required
- Cooling time

### Materials Used

Different types of thermoplastic material is used, for example: High Density Polyethylene (HDPE), Low Density Polyethylene (LDPE), Polypropylene (PP), Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC), Polyethylene Terephtalate (PET), and Polycarbonate (PC).

## Advantages

- Low tooling cost and fast production rates
- Ability to mold complex part
- Little scrap generated
- Large hollow shape can be produced
- Produced parts can be recycle

### Limitations

- Limited to hollow parts
- Thick parts can not be manufactured