April's List of Essential Tools:

-wet-dry sand paper

-drywall sanding screens

-cabinet scraper for scraping plaster to get a flat edge

-misc. files for shaping plaster

-surforms for carving and shaping plaster

-wire brush to clean the files and surforms

-WD40 to protect steel tools from rust after cleaning

-clay shaping tools for claying up the model

-wooden knives for cutting and scraping the plasticine on the edges of cottle boards.

-soft, wax based plasticine for filling gaps

-level

-spring loaded clamps to hold the cottle boards in place while they are positioned

-screw down clamps for use while constructing the mold

-metal spoon for carving keys

-cheap brush for mold soap

-small sponges

-dust mask

-graduated buckets for mixing plaster

-measuring cups for water

-large square for laying out cottle boards

-small square for checking midline

-non-stick surface for working like plexiglass, melamine or granite

-a good ruler