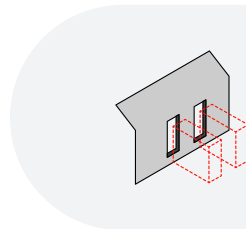


WHAT ARE SIDE ACTIONS, AND DO YOU NEED THEM?

Side actions are slides and/or hand pulls used in the injection mold building process to create undercuts in a part. They are beneficial because they add to your part's geometry, but also increase your production cost for the same reason.

BUT FIRST, WHAT ARE UNDERCUTS?

An undercut is any indentation or protrusion that prohibits part ejection from a straight-pull mold. It is a feature that cannot be captured with the cavity and core alone. Though they add complexity to a mold and can increase production costs, parts sometimes require undercuts and side actions to achieve the expected fit, form, and function.

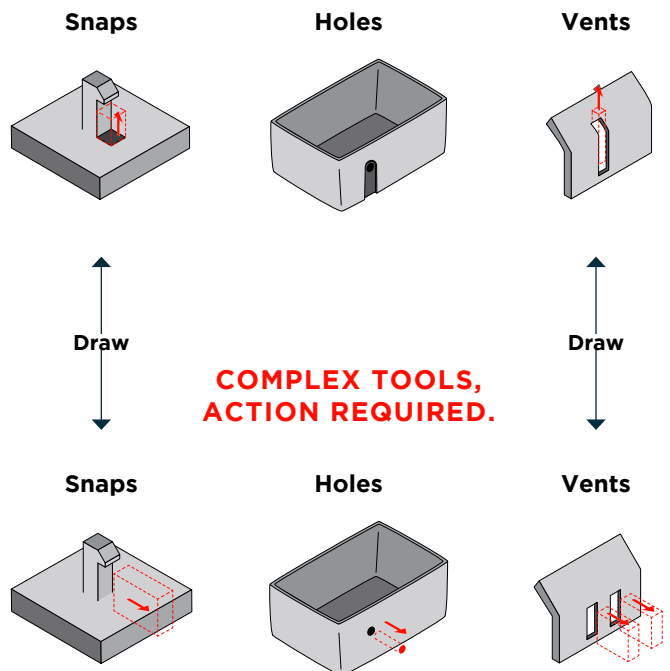


Because undercuts require side actions, they add to your cost. Reducing the number of undercuts will reduce the cost of tooling.

TYPES OF SIDE ACTIONS

TYPE	WHEN YOU NEED THEM
CAMS	To have more design options because they allow for greater geometric complexity.
SLIDER	To create external undercuts to form features on the outside of a part.
LIFTER	To release internal undercuts or internal faces with no draft. They're used to form internal tab or overhanging features.
HAND-LOADED CORE	For prototype and low-volume tooling. They're cheaper than automated slides and lifters.
UNSCREWING ACTION	Used for consistent thread production. They're the most cost-effective option for low-volume production.
COLLAPSIBLE CORE	Used for releasing circular undercuts or large internal threads.

SIMPLE TOOLS, NO ACTION REQUIRED.



How do you add undercuts and side actions without sacrificing speed-to-market? [Watch this webinar](#) for expert tips.