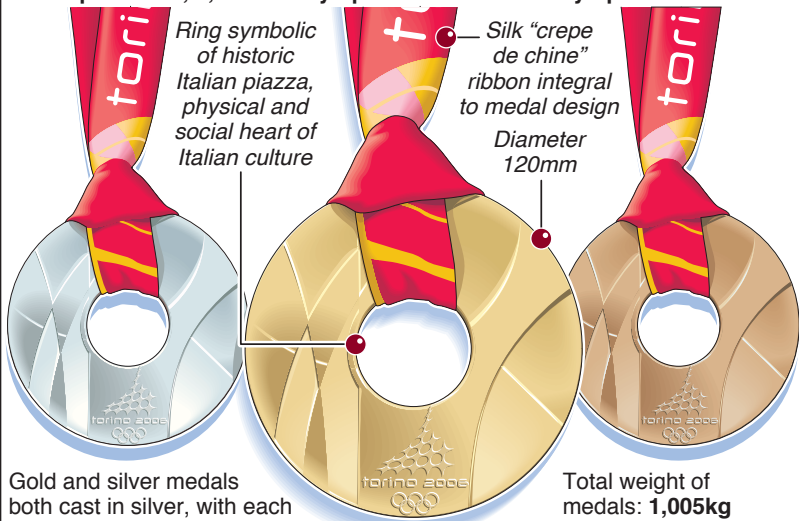


Torino 2006 Olympic medals

Made by Torinese silversmiths using the lost-wax casting method, each Olympic medal takes 10 hours to make. Over 1,600 medals will be produced, 1,026 for Olympic and 648 for Paralympic athletes



LOST WAX CASTING

Wax prototype placed into cylinder of liquid ceramic plaster

Ceramic fired at 800°C. Wax evaporates to leave void

Molten metal poured into cast

Surface cleaned up, text etched and medal electroplated

Source: TOROC, Ottaviani