

POLYMER CLAY IDEA BOOK





What is Polymer Clay?

Polymer clay is a versatile modelling material that requires oven baking to harden. Without baking, it will remain pliable and soft.

Polymer clay can be used and incorporated into various craft projects such as decorative items, pottery, sculptures, scrapbooking, jewellery, beads, keyrings, hanging ornaments, figurines, trinket dishes and so much more.

The soft, flexible nature of polymer clay makes it a great medium for children from 3yrs of age and crafters of all experience levels.



OVEN BAKE



SAFE FOR KIDS 3+



NON-TOXIC



WATER RESISTANT

Polymer Clay Tips and Tricks

1 Prepare your surface and work area

Always make sure your work surface is flat, clean and free from dust.

Ideal surfaces to work on:

- *An acrylic board*
- *A marble, ceramic tile or terracotta tile*
- *Baking paper*
- *A glass or plexiglass sheet*

Surfaces to avoid:

- *Polycarbonate plastic*
- *Polystyrene*
- *Metal*
- *Wood*

Polymer clay will become softer and sticky as it warms up in your hands. To help prevent the polymer clay becoming too sticky, try working in a cooler room on a cool surface.

2 Useful polymer clay tools

Polymer clay cutter - Use to cut the clay to size. It is great for slicing rolled pieces of clay, also known as rolled canes that can be used as beads.

Modelling tools and roller - For best results, use the plastic modelling tools and acrylic rolling pin. Avoid using wooden tools as the polymer clay will stick.

Tweezers - Use to pick up small pieces delicately and precisely place them on your project.

Toothpicks (not included) - Used to make holes in beads, as well as adding intricate details to projects.

Baking paper (not included) - Baking paper will stop the clay from sticking to the working surface. It is also used to line the baking tray to protect it from the shiny residue.



3 Condition the polymer clay

Roll the polymer clay back and forth in your hands until it is warm and softens. Once warm, roll it into a ball, then into a snake shape. Repeat this process until the polymer clay is malleable. Make sure there are no trapped air bubbles.

If the polymer clay is getting too soft for the project you are making, allow it to rest so it firms.

4 Storing excess clay

Wrap any leftover polymer clay in cling film and place it in an airtight container or keep in a zip lock bag. Store in a cool dark place.





5 *Cleaning up*

Alcohol will dissolve polymer clay.

Use alcohol-based hand sanitiser to remove residue off your hands and wipe them clean with a paper towel. Then wash your hands with soap and water.

Tools can also be cleaned by soaking them in rubbing alcohol for a few minutes to remove residue then washed with soapy water.

Colour Mixing Guide

The colour guide shows how many parts of each colour to mix to make more colours.

$$1 + 1 + 2 = \text{Light purple}$$

$$1 + 1 + 6 = \text{Lilac}$$

$$\overset{\text{lilac}}{1} + 1 + 8 = \text{Pink}$$

$$2 + 1 + 4 = \text{Peach}$$

$$1 + 3 = \text{Light yellow}$$

$$1 + 5 = \text{Mint}$$

$$1 + 2 = \text{Turquoise}$$

$$8 + 1 = \text{Navy blue}$$

$$1 + 1 + 1 = \text{Brown}$$

The chart below uses some clay colours available only in the large polymer clay pack.

$$1 + \frac{1}{2} + 1 = \text{Coral}$$

$$1 + 4 = \text{Soft beige}$$

$$1.5 + 1 + 3 = \text{Blue mist}$$

$$1 + 1 = \text{Moss green}$$

$$\frac{1}{8} + 2 = \text{Yellow green}$$

$$1 + 1 + 6 = \text{Mint}$$

Oven Baking

Adult assistance required when operating the oven and baking the polymer clay.

Baking instructions

- 1. Preheat the oven to 140°C. Do not use a fan forced oven setting.*
- 2. Line a baking tray with foil or baking paper and place the polymer clay on the tray.
You can also use a ceramic tile to bake on.*
- 3. Loosely cover the polymer clay with foil then place in the oven.*
- 4. Baking times will vary depending on the thickness of the clay.
In general, 6mm thick clay requires approximately 30min of baking.
- 6mm thick clay: bake for 30min
- 12mm thick clay: bake for 1 hour
- 18mm thick clay: bake for 1.5 hours*
- 5. Turn the oven off and open the door to allow the clay to cool before removing it from the oven.*
- 6. Using oven mitts, remove the tray from the oven and allow the clay to cool completely before handling. Once it has cooled completely the clay will be fully cured.*

Polymer Clay Ideas

Tip: Once polymer clay has fully cured, it is strong, durable and does not need to be sealed, glazed or varnished.



↪ Rainbow ornaments



↪ Trinket dish



↪ *Figurines*

