

Skippy the Bulldog

by Dolores Marple

I made some little dogs earlier this month and found that I really enjoyed making the easy ones. The miniature bulldog was the most appealing to me so when CF Originals yahoo chat group was asking for a dog tutorial, (and they have been asking for a year or so) I am happy to volunteer what I do to make a dog. It is not really a tutorial, more like —this is how I do it... so here goes....

Supplies

Dog Colored Clay
Pastel Chalks
Knitting Needle
Fat Needle
Black Acrylic Paint
Gloss Varnish

1. It all starts with a lump of clay!



2. Take your lump and turn it into a body lump and a knobby round head lump.



3. Push up a little clay to get the muzzle area. I did this mostly with my fingers, and a couple of strokes with a knitting needle. It still isn't much to look at, but indicate where the eyes, nose and mouth might go.



4. The leg/hip area with no foot attached is just stuck on at this point. It is just a glob of clay . You can add another glob on the other side if you want.



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5. I attached a little L shaped glob of clay for the front leg. I find that if I use warm clay for the attaching piece, it will blend more easily. You can warm the clay piece with a hair dryer. I added a little lump for the paw on the back leg and started making the wrinkles with a needle. This took a bit of time and my puppy fell asleep. So why not? I'll have a puppy with his head down. If you don't have any glass eyes or beads for eyes, you can just make your puppy laying there all sound asleep!

7. I used a stout needle to push wrinkles into the clay. This process takes awhile. You can add as many or few wrinkles as you'd like. When the wrinkles are done, two little triangles are added for ears. Paws are just indicated with lines. I also pinched a little clay between my fingers to make a small tail.



6. The picture on the left shows the glass eyes pressed into the head. I believe I used 6 mm. size. The bottom picture shows the eyelid



8. Once I have the dog finished, and before he goes into the oven, I add powders. On the left are prepared powders that I recently bought from Polymer Clay Express. I needed black

though so I used some of my powders that I get from scraping pastel sticks with a razor blade. A messy operation! The powder is dabbed on with a soft paint brush.

added to the top. A similar one is also added to the bottom of the eye.



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9. This shows the little guy before going into the oven.



10. When he has come out, I only need to add a dot of black paint with gloss varnish to his nose.

Right away Skippy found himself a comfortable needle felted blanket to rest on. After all, being created can be quite exhausting!!



11. I hope this helps all you dog lovers have at least have an idea of how one person makes a dog!

You can find more creations by Dolores on her blog and her etsy page...

<http://followingtrolltracks.blogspot.com/>

<http://www.trolltracks.etsy.com>

Check back here for more free projects!

<http://www.polyclayplay.com>