

Read these tips and techniques to learn more about the Club Project Instructions.

We carry many of the items at Poly Clay Play. Don't forget to use your 20% Club Member Discount!
If you are reading this while connected to the Internet, click on bordered titles to be taken to more information.

Kemper Needle Tool	Almost every project calls for a needle tool. It's great for "drawing" on clay, drilling beads...!
Clay Blade	I use a clay blade for every project.
Pasta Machine	Poly Clay Play carries Makin's® Ultimate Pasta Machine, made specifically for use with clay. If you aren't ready to invest in this invaluable tool, read the instructions for making clay sheets at http://www.polyclayplay.com/TipsTools/pasta_machine.htm
(PM1) in Instructions	When you see (PM1) in project instructions, the reference is to the setting used on a pasta machine. In this case, you would run your clay through on the #1 setting. The reference is also considering #1 as being the largest setting on the machine.
*Kemper 3/16"...	In the Supplies List on each project page, the star tells you that we carry the item(s) and you can use your 20% club member discount to purchase the item(s).
Conditioning	Always knead or squish your clay until it is soft. This mixes the PVC and the plasticizers back together, making the clay workable again. If you don't condition your clay well, it may be brittle after baking. Some clay needs more conditioning than others. My project instructions assume that you have conditioned your clay well!
Varnishing	Read the Tips page I have provided concerning Varnishing and then use what works best for you!

Clay Brands

I use Prēmo! made by Sculpey™. Prēmo! is one of the stronger clays but is still easy to work with. When working with children, you may want to use Sculpey III™ which is softer for little hands but keep in mind it is not a very strong clay after baking.

DO NOT use a Microwave

Don't eat while working with clay. Wash your hands after use.
The clay is nontoxic but you shouldn't ingest it.

Clay Storage

Store your clay away from light and heat. Otherwise, it should last a very long time.

Contact me with any questions ~
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DO NOT use tools for food after you have used them with clay!

Use an Oven Thermometer!

Clay will not cure properly if it is not baked at the correct temperature, making it weak and sometimes brittle.

Work Surface

DO NOT work with uncured clay on fine furniture. The plasticizer in the clay will ruin wood and some other finishes. I work on a ceramic tile.

Crumbly Clay

Try mixing it with softer clay.

Mix in a little Liquid Clay

Don't toss it! Crumble it into a mini food processor or old blender and add a few drops of mineral oil. Pulse it... when it looks like cottage cheese and begins to stick together, take it out and work it.

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