



Take & Make Clay Project Pack: Instructions for Getting Started

What's Included & Tips for Working:

We promise to take great care with your creations, but we cannot guarantee that your project will return to you exactly as you remember it. **Keep these points in mind:**

1. One piece per ball of clay ordered will be fired for the included price. Any additional pieces can be fired for \$5 each. Leftover clay can be returned when you drop off your pieces.
2. Do not mix in foreign objects or materials into the clay (paper, glass, sand, etc.) It may explode, melt or burn out and otherwise ruin your pieces or our equipment.
3. Due to the volume of pottery fired in our studios, it is difficult to track items smaller than 2x2x2 inches. Please make your projects larger. We won't glaze fire items under this size, but we can bisque fire them and you can paint them after (not food safe). Please do not make a pile of beads, buttons, or ornaments. They are difficult to label & track.
4. This clay shrinks by about 12% (water burnoff), so your final project will be smaller.
5. Long, thin protrusions have a very high risk of breaking and small bits tend to fall off. Either wrap long parts around the main mass of your project, or, for very thin parts, like antennas/whiskers, the best solution is to add them with wire and glue after firing.
6. Poorly attached or delicate parts usually fall off. We will try to re-attach pieces, but only if it is clear where they belonged and if reattaching will not damage the rest of the the piece
7. If clay is overworked or very uneven in thickness it will likely crack in drying or firing. Try to keep walls an even thickness and avoid building with solid lumps of clay.
8. **This is about process, so have fun with it!** Even projects that don't make it through the firing will be worth the experience! For this reason, there are no refunds or exchanges for projects that don't turn out as expected. We are very careful with peoples' work, but in the event that our staff is at fault, you will be given more clay to create a new project at no cost.
9. **Don't forget to label your projects (name, date, color) and return the tools!**

Instruction & Inspiration:

1. Studio 550 has free step by step sculpting projects:
 - a. Instagram feed @studio550
 - b. Facebook Studio550ArtCenter
 - c. Website: 550arts.com/classes/diy
2. Studio 550 has a free video of basic hand sculpting techniques:
 - a. Free IGTV (instagram video) @Studio550
 - b. Free YouTube: Studio 550 Art Center

- c. Patreon: Studio 550 (This page is new as of 4/2020) We are building up a video catalog of step-by-step tutorials for specific projects, troubleshooting, etc.
- 3. Pinterest and the Internet is a treasure trove of project ideas

The Wiggle Test

1. Allow your piece to dry slightly. Not so much that it looks chalky or starts to get lighter in color, but just enough so it is no longer sticky, and is slightly firm.
2. Check to make sure that all of the pieces you attached are secure by giving the attached piece a slight wiggle. A poorly attached detail will fall off with a light wiggle. Scratch and slip thoroughly and reattach.
3. Make sure all attachments are secure while the clay is still wet or slightly damp. If your clay is too dry you will not be able to reattach the detail.



- (Purple Matte - #1)
- (Black Gloss - #5)
- (Blue Gloss - #4)
- (Raspberry gloss - #8)
- (Amber Gloss - #22)
- (Yellow Gloss - #23)
- (White Gloss - #29)

Finishing Steps & Return of Work

1. Using a dull pencil, scratch in the maker's FULL NAME, the date it was made (mm/yy) and the NUMBER of the color you want us to glaze it.
2. Keep your piece wrapped in the plastic provided so it doesn't dry out anymore. Projects transport best when slightly wet, so wrap it very well.
3. Use the box or bag we sent your materials in, and pack the box with:
 - a. All tools (slip, wooden sculpting tool, wooden rib, plastic) & Leftover clay (wet or dry)
 - b. Completed Drop-off Card
 - c. Well wrapped project(s) with padding below and around it so it doesn't break in transport. Grocery bags, a towel, or other common packing materials work well.
 - d. Any special notes for the staff, no guarantees, but communication is key!
4. Drop off your projects during open hours. We are not responsible for projects that are left out anytime outside of the drop-off times.
5. If you would like to order more clay for any other projects, please do so before the drop off time and we will have it ready for you to pick up at the same time.
6. Projects returned without tools will not be fired until the tools are either paid for or returned.