

Polymer Clay Tips and Recommendations

CLAY

Premo Sculpey or Fimo Classic. Cernit is also a very durable clay once cured, but the color often changes during baking so test a small piece first.

Prices vary. A two-ounce block runs \$2.25 - \$4.00. MisterArt has the best price I've found lately. Michaels is \$3.29, in-store stock is often low.

Cernit translucent is great for durability after curing. Clay Factory

ProSculpt for faces and bodies. Purchase in 1lb block. Around \$17 plus shipping. Try Amazon.com.

When possible order clay in cooler weather. Clay starts to cure at around 90°

BAKING

Bake the clay at the manufacturers recommended time and temp -usually around 265° for 30 min. Lower temp or less bake time results in a more fragile piece.

Once a piece is baked it can be baked again, but color may darken with each baking.

Use a thermometer to calibrate oven settings, check for hot spots

TOOLS:

Sculpey Dual End detail tools. They come in a pack of 3 sizes.

Tissue blade for slicing

Cotton applicators (look like Q-tips) Used for applying make-up. Found at RiteAid or most drug stores in the make-up section. These are good for smoothing out clay before baking.

Exacto knife

Liquid Polymer - helps with adhering clay to other surfaces

Ceramic Tile as a work surface - keeps clay cool for better workability

OVEN A toaster oven is fine. Convection is better. Bake your pieces on a tile or piece of wood. Keep pieces as far from the elements as possible.

I recommend a larger convection oven for around \$100. I use: Oster French Convection Countertop and Toaster Oven, Single Door Pull and Digital Controls, Stainless Steel, Extra Large

OTHER USEFUL ITEMS

Hand wipes

Rags

Wet/Dry Sandpaper for smoothing cured pieces

Buffer for fine polishing. Can be low RPM

Dremel tool - I use Dremel Micro. It is cordless and comes in it's own charger. Not very powerful, but fine for small jobs.

INFORMATIONAL WEBSITE

Blue Bottle Tree. Ginger Davis does a lot of testing and research on different clay brands, finishes and techniques.

Any questions feel free to call me

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