

Sculpting & Baking Clay

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Tutorial #7 Sculpting with clay and baking

I use super sculpey and Cernit together. I buy the super sculpey that comes in the 1 lb. green box. I tear off the first layer of clay (there are 4 layers in each box) and tear that layer in 1/2. I knead and form white cernit into a ball around the size of a grape. I use that first ball as a measuring ball and form enough balls to match up with each 1/2 layer of super sculpey ~ which is 8 balls of cernit per box of clay. Then I take the 1/2 layer of super sculpey and 1 white cernit ball and knead them together until they are completely mixed. I set the kneaded layers of clay back into the box to use when I need them.

The secret to no moons and cracking is letting your sculpts cool off at a slower rate ~ decreasing the shock to the cooling sculpt. I couldn't leave the sculpts in the oven to cool off because they would turn brown (the fingers and ears) because the heat was too high (the oven wouldn't cool off fast enough). I discovered that if I raised the temp of the room itself to around 85 deg then my sculpts would turn out perfect. I am sure there is a easier way then this, but I have yet to figure it out. So, I make sure to pick a day and cook all my sculpts within that day to save on the electricity bill. I pull my sculpts out of the oven and rest them on top of the warm oven to cool. I let them rest there for about 2 hours without touching them. I found that if you touch or bump them, then this too increased the chance of cracking.

Hope this helps some! =)

Take care!
Angela

Emily's Fairies
One of a Kind Sculptures
by artist Angela Drake
www.emilysfairies.com

A fairy experiences the dawn for the first time as she springs into reality....born by the laughter of a child's heart.