TINY PANDORA CRAFTING BOUTIQUE PRESENTS

FAUX GLASS BEADS

DESIGNED AND WRITTEN BY CYNTHIA GOUGIAN
Materials List:

- Deep Shine Brush On UV Finish, available [here](#)
- Small amounts of pearlized, or glitter clay. For this tutorial, Premo Sculpey Accents in pearl, peacock pearl and bronze was used.
- Ranger Tim Holtz Adirondack Alcohol Ink Mixative in Gold, available [here](#)
- Small double pointed knitting needles, or skewers
- Toothpicks
- A ball tool
- Ranger Ultra Thick Embossing Enamel, Clear (UTEE), available [here](#)
- Ranger Melt Art Melting Pot, available [here](#) ***Note, a disposable tin pie pan on an electric skillet can also be used
- Beadsmith One Step Looper Tool, available [here](#)
- 20 gauge brass wire, available [here](#)
- Brass Bead Caps
- Scissors
- 400 Grit Wet Dry Sandpaper
- A small soft artist’s brush
- A large soft brush, like a makeup brush
- Heat embossing tool/gun, available [here](#)
Step 1:

Roll out small balls of clay. Pearlized clay works best for this technique.

Step 2:

Place the balls on small, double pointed knitting needles, or a skewer. You can mix, or marble the colors if you’d like.

Step 3:

Roll the balls into tubes. Pinch the ends of the tubes to prevent the holes from getting too large. You may notice some streaks from the mica powder in the clay at this point. Don’t worry about them, they will add to the glass effect.
Step 4:
Twist the beads on the needles. This will produce a swirled pattern that will contribute to the glass effect.

Step 5:
Roll the log smooth again.

Step 6:
You can use a toothpick to add impressions to the bead.
Step 7:
You can also use a ball tool to add impressions to your beads. When you’ve finished adding texture, cure the beads at the manufacturer’s recommended temperature for one hour.

Step 8:
When the beads have cured and cooled, shake the mixative very well.

Step 9:
Use a small, soft artist’s brush to apply the mixative to the impressions on the bead.
Step 10:

***Note: I have included a detailed Hints and Tips for Working with UTEE at the end of this document.

Turn the Ranger Melt Art pot to the UTEE setting. Allow the pot to pre-heat, with the cover on for ten minutes.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Step 11:</th>
<th>Fill the pre-heated melting pot to the “max” line with UTEE. Replace the cover, and allow the UTEE to melt completely. Remember, don’t stir!</th>
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Step 12:

Place the beads securely on the end of a knitting, or skewer. Dip the bead in the deepest part of the melted UTEE. Twirl the bead slowly to avoid air bubbles. Continue to slowly twirl as you drag the bead toward yourself, continue twirling as you lift the bead out of the UTEE.
Step 13:
Place the end of the bead on the surface of the pot. Slowly turn the bead to melt excess UTEE from the end of the bead.

Step 14:
When the UTEE cools, remove the bead from the knitting needle, and use scissors to snip the excess UTEE from the other end of the bead.

Step 15:
Wet sand the ends of the bead with 400 grit wet dry sand paper to further refine the ends.
Step 16:

UTEE is very durable, but over time, it may cloud. To prevent this, a shine coat is needed. You may use Varathane, or another water-based gloss sealer. But, I prefer to use Deep Shine. Deep Shine is a brush on UV finish from Tiny Pandora.

Step 17:

Decant a small amount of Deep Shine into a small plastic cup.

Step 18:

Dip a soft brush, like a makeup brush into the Deep Shine. Allow the excess Deep Shine to drip from the brush. Avoid swiping the brush against the side of the cup. That can push air bubbles trapped inside the bristles to the outside of the brush where they will be transferred to your bead.
Step 19:

With the bead on the knitting needle, apply the Deep Shine to the bead. Use a light touch. If you press too hard the brush, you run the risk of pushing air bubbles to the outside of the brush where they will transfer to your piece. Make sure you keep the brush loaded. The brush should glide over the Deep Shine, not really touching the bead. At the same time, you shouldn’t have so much Deep Shine on the brush that it causes drips. It takes a little practice. But, after a short time, you will get the hang of it.

Step 20:

When you’ve finished applying the Deep Shine to your bead, immediately wrap your brush in foil. This prevents the Deep Shine from curing on your brush, allowing you to use it again and again.

Step 21:

Place a 36-Watt UV lamp on a piece of foil. Push the knitting needle into a small piece of clay to act as a stand. Cure the bead under the light for 4 minutes.

Step 22:

The One Step Looper makes it easy to turn your beads into links.

The Looper tool has a guide hole on the back of the tool.
Step 23:
Cut a 4- or 5-inch piece of wire. Insert it into the tool, and through the guide hole.

Step 24:
Squeeze the plier handles together. The tool will form a loop, and cut away the excess wire in one step. Before releasing the pliers, use your finger to push the tail of the wire against the jaws of the tool.

Step 25:
Remove the wire from the tool. This is the first loop for your link.

Step 26:
Slip a bead cap onto the wire.
Step 27:

Then slip your faux glass bead onto the wire.

Step 28:

Slip a second bead cap onto the wire.

Step 29:

Snug the second bead cap against the looper tool. Thread the wire through the guide. Once again, squeeze the handles to form the second loop.
Now your beads are links, ready to be added to a jewelry project!

Thanks for reading! Enjoy your beads! Don’t forget to visit the Studio Cryptique YouTube and like, comment, and subscribe! Teresa’s Be Seen Be Known design team have put together some great projects. So, be sure to check it out! https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrADHMVKyIFKoyLdGqtPA
Hints & Tips for Working with UTEE

- UTEE stands for Ultra Thick Embossing Enamel. It’s a clear, large granule embossing powder. It melts at 350 degrees Fahrenheit. It cools to a transparent, glass like finish.
• Ranger’s Melt Art Melting Pot has a UTEE setting built in. But, some people use a disposable pie tin on an electric skillet set to 350 degrees Fahrenheit to melt UTEE.

• UTEE is slightly yellow. This isn’t noticeable if you put 1-2 coats on a bead. But, the longer the UTEE sits in the pot, the more amber colored it becomes. For best results;
  o Have your beads on knitting needles and skewers, and ready to dip. This way, you can work as quickly as possible.
  o Dip your lightest beads first.

• The melting pot should be allowed to pre-heat for ten minutes with the cover on before the UTEE is added.

• Some people have reported that the UTEE setting on their Ranger Melt Art pots seems to be too hot, causing their UTEE become amber colored very quickly. If this happens, you may want to turn the pot down a bit.

• The melting pot has a “Max” line on the inside. The pot should be filled to that line.

• Once the UTEE is added to the pot, it should be allowed to melt, undisturbed, with the cover on. DO NOT stir the UTEE. It will create many, many bubbles!

• If you do get a lot of air bubbles, you can wand over the UTEE with a heat embossing tool. But, this can cause the
UTEE to become amber colored. So, it’s best to avoid air bubbles in the first place.

- If you are unhappy with your dipped beads, you can use a heat embossing tool to melt the UTEE off your bead, then dip again.