Steampunk Heart Travel Journal
By Rbjewelz Burch

Collaboration with
Tiny Pandora
In this tutorial, I will show you how to make a beautiful steampunk heart travel journal using your favorite polymer clay (I will be using Sculpey Premo), some additional supplies, and the heart silkscreen kit by Tiny Pandora.

This tutorial is written with assumption that you have basic polymer clay skills.

I encourage you to read through the entire tutorial before you begin. You will get a better understanding of the flow of the project.
MATERIALS

- Travel Sketchbook
- Heart Silkscreen Kit by Tiny Pandora
- (1) Bottle of Acrylic Paint (color your choice – I’m using Deco Art color “Rich Expresso”)
- Squeegee, Old Credit Card, or Old Biz Card
- Texture Sheet
- Paintbrush Med. for “fills and shapes”
- (4) 2 oz. Pkgs of Polymer Clay your choice (three (3) of the same color and one (1) coordinating color)
- Metal Findings (cogs, skeleton keys, mini cogs and keys, and copper-plated chain)
- Reflections word of choice
- Craft Glue (Aleene’s Tacky Glue – for durability and it dries clear)
- Fine Glitter in a coordinating color (to match your colors in the project)
- Glass surface or ceramic tile surface
- Pasta machine
- Oven large enough to cure the project
- Tissue blade
- Acrylic roller

You can purchase these materials at Michael’s or your local craft store. You can get the “Heart Silkscreen Kit at www.tinypandora.com.
Choose your favorite polymer clay colors. Use four 2 oz. packs of polymer clay. Three of the same color and one coordinating color. For this tutorial, I am using the following colors three (3) 18 Kt. Gold and antique gold.

**Condition Polymer Clay**

Cut and condition both colors of clay on the pasta machine’s thickest setting. Then, set them aside.

**Clay and Texture Sheet**

For this step, you will need the large clay sheet, texture sheet, and your acrylic roller.
Next, lay the side of the texture sheet that you want to use face down on the clay (you can spritz a little water on the clay or dust with a little cornstarch, so the texture sheet will release from the clay with ease).

Then, roll the acrylic roller over the entire clay sheet. Repeat this process until you have textured the whole sheet of clay.
Note: Please make sure that you are using a glass or ceramic tile surface that will fit the travel journal book cover as well as able to fit into the oven (you may have to use the stove for this project depending on the size of your toaster oven).

Creating Book Cover Blank

For this step, you will need a mini travel drawing journal and tissue blade.
(Measurements for the travel drawing journal cover is approx. 8 3/16 inches length by 4 ½ inches width. This booklet can be purchased at Michael's or your local craft store).

Lay the booklet on top of the textured clay sheet. Please don’t press down hard on the booklet. Slightly touch the book enough to cut around the entire travel drawing journal book for the cover.
**Textured Book Cover Sheet and Hearts Cut Outs**

For this step, you will need the heart shaped cutter, craft knife, and the textured book cover sheet.

Cut out four (4) hearts in a pattern that you desire. Do not remove this clay sheet at this point because you distort the cut outs.
Now, carefully lift the hearts from the book cover with your craft knife. You may be able to pick up the heart at the bottom point if it is slightly lifted.

Set the hearts and book cover aside. Get ready for the next step.

Silkscreen Hearts

For this part of the project, you will need the other condition sheet of clay, the “Heart Silkscreen Kit by Tiny Pandora”, acrylic paint, a squeegee or an old credit card, a little pan of warm soapy water, and sturdy work surface.
Now, lay the conditioned clay onto the glass or ceramic tile surface (it will be easier to work on the surface that can put in the oven). The less you move these hearts after you have created them, the better. These hearts will keep their shape.

Lay the silkscreen face up (where you can read the words across the top of the silkscreen). Make sure to smooth out the silkscreen on to the clay, so there aren’t any air bubbles between the silkscreen and the clay.
Take the bottle or tube of acrylic paint and carefully make a line of paint right beside the heart that you choose to use for this art journal.
Next, take the squeegee or old credit card and hold it an angle towards the line of paint in front of the heart.

Gently slide the squeegee or credit card through the paint across the heart. Repeat this process, if necessary, to get full coverage and color onto the heart. Don’t move silkscreen until you complete the second heart, but you are going to have to move through this process quickly.
Have a bowl of soapy warm water ready to put the silkscreen into quickly when you finish, so the acrylic paint doesn’t ruin the silkscreen.

Repeat the same process for the second heart. Then, put the silkscreen into the bowl of water quickly.
Set the silkscreen hearts aside to dry for about 30 to 40 minutes.

Cutting Out Hearts

For this step, you will need the silkscreen hearts and heart shape cutter.

Once the silkscreen hearts have completely dried, take the heart shaped cutter and carefully cut the hearts out.
Repeat the same process for the second silkscreen heart. Then, remove the excess clay from around the hearts. Set them aside. Move the next step.

**Creating Textured Hearts**

To create textured hearts, you will need the excess clay from the same clay that you use to create the silkscreen hearts, acrylic roller, and the heart shape cutter. Put this clay through the pasta machine a few times on the thickest setting on your pasta machine.

Use the same texture sheet that you used for the journal cover. Repeat the same texturing process. Cut out two textured hearts.
You should have a total of six hearts for the journal cover.

Now, put the four (4) hearts (the two textured hearts and the textured hearts you just created) in the oven at the recommended temperatures on the package of clay for 30 minutes.

The texture hearts that you created in the beginning will remain raw. You will use them in the next step.

Once the heart cure and cool, set them aside and get ready for the next step.

**Putting It Together**

For this step, you will need the journal cover and all six hearts.
Take the two (2) silkscreen hearts place them into two of the heart cutouts. Do the same thing for the textured hearts.

Complete the same steps in adding the textured hearts into the cutout spaces.

Now you have placed the hearts in the blank spaces in the journal, we have one more step to complete in this process.

Take one of the raw textured hearts that you made in the beginning, place it at an angle over the first two hearts (silkscreen and textured).
Complete the same steps for the second set of hearts. Then, the journal cover will be ready to go in the oven.

Now, the journal cover is ready for the oven. Use the recommended temperatures on the packages of clay. Put it in the oven for one (1) hour.

While the journal cover is in the oven curing, let's get the other materials together for the next steps.

Note: There will be a little shrinkage with the journal cover, but don’t worry. We are going to take care of it in the next steps.
**Materials for Journal Cover**

- Travel Drawing Journal
- Cogs, wheels (metal findings)
- Aleene’s tacky glue
- Fine glitter
- Acrylic paint
- Word of choice
- Copper plated chain
- Applicators
- Paint brush
- Tweezers
- Box of baby wipes
Now, the journal cover has cured and cool, it’s time to have some fun and get creative!

Remove the cured journal cover from the glass or ceramic tile surface by sliding the tissue blade between the journal cover and work surface.

The journal cover may seem a little flimsy because the only thing holding the entire piece together are the textured hearts on top of the two sets of hearts. Don’t get overly concerned about the loose hearts on the journal cover because they will become secure in the gluing process.

**Becoming Completely Glued**

You will need these materials for the next step, the tacky glue, the journal cover, and something heavy to lay on top of the journal.
Get the journal book. Begin to add the tacky glue to the book with the applicator or your fingers.

Cover the entire journal cover with the tacky glue. Then, place the journal cover on top of the journal.

Once the bookcover is affixed to the journal, lay something heavy on top of the journal (like a steel block, or heavy piece of glass), so
the journal doesn’t move, while drying. Let the journal set for 24 hours.

Now, the journal is completely dry, you are ready for the final steps.

**Time to Embellish**

Take the cogs and wheels, place them in the areas around the hearts as you choose. When you are happy with the placement of the findings, glue them to the cover (don’t worry about the white showing when you use the glue. It will dry clear).

Set the journal aside to dry for a 30 to 40 minutes. While the journal is drying, get ready for some paint and glitter in the next step.
Paint the word with the acrylic paint a couple times. Then, add the glitter by dipping the paintbrush with paint into the glitter. Continue this process until the word has as much sparkle as you desire. Set the word aside to dry for about 5 to 10 minutes.

After the word has dried, apply some tacky glue on the back of the word and place it at the top of the journal. You can also add the mini cogs and keys around the word in this step as well.
You can let the journal complete dry for about 3 to 4 hours before adding the copper plate chain or you can add it now. Simply add the glue with an applicator to the side of the journal by the edge of the clay bookcover. Then, lay the chain in the glue by the edge of the bookcover. Take a toothpick and gently push the chain into the glue close to the bookcover. At this point, you are done. Let the journal dry for about 3 to 4 hours.

Now, you have a wonderful “Steampunk Heart Journal” to give as gift or keep for yourself. Enjoy.

Happy Creating!