Rustic Bangle

From tinypandora.com’s Easy Bangle Kit

By Priscilla Magaardan Andrews

For: Tiny Pandora Crafting Boutique
    Unusual Things for Unusual People
    Tinypandora.com
You will need the **Easy Bangle Kit** from tinypandora.com

**Supplies:** The Easy Bangle kit, metallic clays in gold, dark silver and copper; pearl clay, a long silkscreen, black acrylic paint, black stain, a roller, Exacto knife and blade, a paintbrush, a strip of leather, a charm and super glue.

Finally, you will need three, different texture sheets and sandpaper in 320, 400 and 600 grits.

Start with the silver and pearl clay. Roll them out on the 2nd setting of your pasta machine. Make sure they are as wide as the 2nd and 3rd widest strips of the kit.

Use your texture sheets to texture each of the strips. Place the templates on the textured strips and cut around them.

Using the bangle form size of your choice, place the silver strip of clay around the outside, below the lip of the form. Blend the seam only on the outside.

Next, place the pearl colored strip over the silver strip, but place the edge of this strip OVER the lip of the bangle form.

Trim the ends and join the seam. The bangle form should be completely covered now.

Use your Exacto knife to cut the notches for the leather out of the clay. Make the notch about 1/2" long and 1/4" deep on each side. Round the edges and corners some of with your fingers. Bake for 30 minutes.
While the bracelet is baking, run the gold clay through your machine on the third setting. Make sure it’s wide enough for the widest template in the Easy Bangle kit. Leave the edges rough.

Now get your silkscreen. I used one of the silk screens from tinypandora.com’s “Long Silk-screens” kit, which are made longer to fit bracelets.

I used an acrylic craft paint in Black Pearl, which is a softer black.

Cover your silkscreen with paint using the included applicator. Peel the silkscreen away carefully to reveal your gorgeous pattern underneath.

While the silkscreened paint dries and your bracelet base is cooling, roll the copper clay out on the second setting, wide enough for the thinnest template of the kit. Texture the copper clay.

Use Bake ‘N Bond or a liquid clay to adhere the copper strip to the top of the pearl clay.

Line the copper strip of clay along the outside edge of the pearl clay.

Cut the notch out of the copper clay on one side, where the notch is on the pearl clay side.

Now we are going to place the silk screened strip on the inside of the bracelet.
<table>
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<th>Put your bonding agent on the back of the gold, silkscreened strip.</th>
<th>Carefully place the gold strip on the INSIDE of the bangle. Press gently but firmly all the way around the inside to secure the strip to the inside.</th>
<th>Center the gold strip on the inside so that the rough edges are equal on each side of the outside edge of the bangle. Cut the gold clay out of the notches you made previously.</th>
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<td>Place a small amount of your bonding agent on the back side of the gold edges on each side of the bangle.</td>
<td>Carefully bend the edges of the gold strip backward, over on top of the edges of the bangle. The rough edges may crack, but this is ok, it adds to the rustic look of the bangle.</td>
<td>Your edges should look like this on both sides of the bangle. When you are done with both edges, bake the bangle for 30 minutes.</td>
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<td>After the bangle is baked again, it’s time to stain the textures. I used black stain, with 1 part black acrylic mixed with 10 parts water.</td>
<td>Apply the stain to the inside of the gold edges, only. Take care to get the stain on all the edges and into the texture. I find a soft brush works best for this.</td>
<td>Let that dry well, at least a couple of hours, depending upon heat and humidity, or your stain will ball up on your sandpaper. Gather your sandpaper, and beginning with the 320 grit, start sanding the bracelet.</td>
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Sand the stain off, as little or as much as you want to remove. There’s no perfect point, here. That’s why we call it “rustic”!

Polish the bangle to your liking. I found that my Dremel 4000 with fleece pads on the spool gives me a good, buffed, but not shiny finish.

Now add the leather lace. Affix first end of the leather lace with preferred glue (I used super glue).

Place it on the edge of one of the notches you cut out and hold it until it is stuck on well.

You are going to make 3 wraps with the leather lace. Wrap the lace around one complete time.

On the second, middle wrap, slide your charm onto the lace. Wrap a third time, stopping on the inside of the bangle.

Glue down the back of the third lace on the inside of the bangle. After it thoroughly dries, file down the edges of the cut ends. They will wear better this way.

And you are done! You can personalize your bracelet with added pieces, different colors, whatever you may want to do!

Thank you, and special thanks to tinypandora.com for making these project possible. Watch for my future projects!