

POLYMER CLAY

diy EARRINGS KIT

STEP-BY-STEP

INSTRUCTIONS

MATERIALS

- 5 blocks of clay
- 4 metal clay cutters
- 1 acrylic roller
- 2 dual-tip cutting/texture tools
- 2 craft sticks
- 1 pair of round tip jewelry pliers
- 3 pairs of brass charms
- 6 pairs of earring posts
- 6 pairs of earring hooks
- 40 jump rings
- 1 tube of E6000 jewelry glue
- 1 medium grit sandpaper

WHAT YOU'LL NEED FROM HOME:

pen & paper for sketching, oven, parchment paper, baking sheet

It's a great day for clay! Let your creativity roll with this fun, easy and on-trend project. This kit includes everything you need to make 12 PAIRS of unique, colorful earrings you'll be proud to wear or share with a friend!



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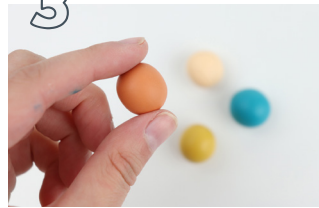
let's get started!

1



Prep your space. Spread out your clay, cutters, roller, clay tools and craft sticks. You can set aside the other stuff for later. We recommend lining a baking sheet with parchment paper so you can roll your clay, then transfer your earrings directly into the oven later.

3



Conditioning. Your clay needs a little prep work, too! Section each block roughly into quarters, then roll it out and knead it in your palms until it becomes easy to stretch, roll, coil and shape. Avoid adding any air bubbles to the ball of clay. And wash your hands between colors to avoid mixing or muddying.

2



Plan your designs. In order to create pairs of earrings that match each other in color, pattern, shape and hardware placement, it's valuable to do a little planning. You may want to sketch out some sets, determine whether they'll have posts or hooks, and give yourself a general idea of what color combinations you want. Your sketch will help you determine how much clay you need to roll out in any given pattern, and where you need to poke holes for connecting pieces with jump rings.

4



TIP: The sticks are your guide for thickness - you'll set them on either side of your ball of clay, and roll until it's flush with the top of the sticks.

Ready to roll! Now it's time to layer and combine your clay into the designs and patterns of your choice. We'll walk you through three popular techniques: **Terrazzo, Marbled** and **Color-Blocked** (turn page over for details). But first, grab your acrylic roller and craft sticks.



Watch instructions video here

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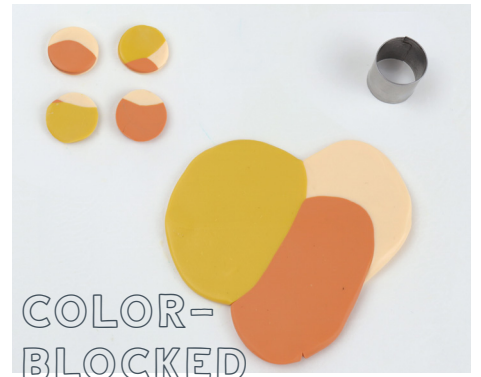
TERRAZZO

Roll out your base layer of clay. Make a thin rope of each color you'd like to add. Take tiny slices of it and spread randomly across your base. Gently press these pieces to stick, then roll it out again, leveling with your craft sticks.



MARbled

Using two or more colors (leftover scraps work great!), make ropes of clay, then twist and fold them around each other to gently mix. Roll out the ball and voilà! It's marbled! Don't overmix, or you'll just end up with a new solid color.



COLOR-BLOCKED

Roll ropes or balls of color in varying sizes and sandwich them together, squeezing gently to avoid any large gaps between the pieces. Then flatten into one color-blocked slab using your acrylic roller.



5 **Cut out shapes.** Now's your chance to double check that you have enough clay rolled out to cut out two (or more) of the shapes you'd like to use. Take your cutter and press down evenly with semi-firm pressure to help ensure you have a clean cut. Lift the cutter away. If clay sticks to the cutter, gently push it out using your plastic cutting tools. Otherwise, peel away the excess clay from around the edges of your shape.



8 **So smooth!** After your clay is cool enough to handle, you can use your sandpaper to smooth out any rough or bumpy edges you might find.

TIP: There's no need to sand the surface of your earrings. Instead, use a cotton swab with acetone nail polish remover to smooth out any flaws or fingerprints.



6 **Poke the holes.** If you'll be creating multi-tiered earrings or adding hooks or charms, you'll need to make holes to fit your jump rings. You can use one of your earring posts, or a toothpick, nail or paperclip will also do the trick. Keep holes about 1/16" from the edge of your clay.



9 **Put a ring on it.** Now you'll connect all the pieces with jump rings. Guide the ring in through the clay and/or hardware holes you need to connect, then using your jewelry pliers, squeeze to twist the two open ends toward each other.

TIP: Don't forget to attach your brass charms in this step, too! They can be layered over clay or be their own tier of the earring. The circle charms do not have holes, but instead interlock directly with jump rings.

TIP: If you need to reopen or adjust any jump rings, remember it's a twisting motion to open and close, not pulling the two ends straight apart.



7 **Time to bake.** Preheat your oven to 275°. Lay clay flat on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Bake for 25-30 minutes. The clay will be pliable, but firm when finished.



10 **Hooks and posts.** The finishing touches! For dangling earrings, connect a pair of hooks to the top, using jump rings. For studs, use a small dab of E6000 glue to attach posts to the back of your clay. Allow 24 hours of drying time before wearing.

📷 Ta-da!

You did it - great job!
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