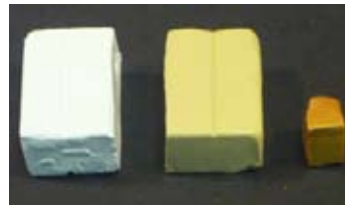


How It's Done - faux bone polymer clay beads by 2Roses

Supplies & Materials

- Primo brand polymer clay in white, ecru, gold and translucent
- A pasta machine for blending clay plus an acrylic rod for hand rolling
- A toaster oven or small oven dedicated to baking polymer clay
- A tissue blade or single edge razor blade for cutting
- Stiff construction paper for a work surface & a piece of quilt batting 4" sq.
- A corsage pin or a needle for adding "age cracks" to your bead
- An 8" piece of wire coat hanger to use as a mandrel for baking the bead
- A tube of dark brown artist's oil color
- One pre-baked base bead (baked on a mandrel to provide a stringing hole).
Bake your bead at 275° F, 15 min. for each 1/4 inch of thickness.
You can use scrap or extra bone base color clay for the base bead.

1 Make the Bone Base Color



We chose Primo brand clay because it is easily workable.

Thoroughly blend with the pasta machine on setting #1:
1/2 oz of white
1/2 oz of ecru and a pinch of gold to make the "bone" color.
You'll have a generous amount of bone color clay to use for this tutorial.

2 Make the Bone Cane using the bone base color + translucent

STEP A

Make the initial "stack"



Roll out 1 sheet each of bone and translucent to 6" L x 3" H.



Stack the translucent on top of the bone



Cut into three equal sections. Then stack each section on top of the other.



STEP B

Make the second "stack"



Hand roll the initial stack until it is 3/8" thick. Trim all sides.



This is a close up of the second stack. **REPEAT 2nd STACK STEPS 1 MORE TIME.** (roll stack out to 3/8" thick, trim, cut in half and place one section on top of the other) Then roll out the clay into a rectangle that is 3/8" thick.



Cut the stack in half. Stack one section on top of the other.

3 Assemble the Bone Cane



On the left is a close up of the final clay rectangle after trimming. Cut the rectangle into 3 equal pieces and stack them on top of each other.



4 Arrange the Cane on Your Base Bead



Press the cane into a compact rectangle. Cut thin strips with tissue knife approx. 1/8" thick.



Apply cane strips to your pre-baked "base" bead. The base bead in this tutorial baked for 45 minutes. It was 2.5" long x 1.25" in diam.

5 Texturize, Bake, Color and Finish



Roll the covered bead gently in your hands to secure the canes, taking care not to distort the grain pattern. You can then take the tip of a needle or corsage pin to add "age cracks" to your bead. Place bead back on the mandrel and put the entire assembly on the 4" sq. piece of quilt batting. Bake at 275°F for 15 minutes. When cooled, apply some dark brown artist's oil colors. Wipe bead with a paper towel to reveal "age cracks." Let the bead sit for 4 to 5 days so the oil paint can dry. Buff with a piece of old t-shirt or use a bit of carnuba car wax on the bead and buff by hand to a satin luster.