

Melted Crayon Clay Ornaments

This easy, kid-friendly project creates ornaments that sparkle and shine using Crayola Crayons and Sculpey III oven-bake polymer clay. Cut out shapes and press objects into the clay to form recessed “wells” to hold crayon shavings and pieces. A few minutes in the oven hardens the clay and melts the colors together. The crayons quickly cool to a solid, glossy state.

Grade Levels K-8

Process

1. Slice polymer clay using a cheese slicer or clay wire. One block will make about 20 slices, 1/4" thick.
2. Use a rolling pin to smooth and flatten the clay slices (very young children will need help). Keep thickness 1/8" or greater. Cut with butter knife to a square or circle or use dough cutters to form fun shapes.
3. Create “wells” by making indentations with anything from the end of a marker to wood shapes, beads or buttons. Press deeply into clay, without penetrating the bottom. Make hanging hole, position outside of a color well.
4. Fill the indentations with color. Young children can use a sharpener to make crayon shavings. Press them into the clay and layer them to completely fill indentation. Older children use pieces of crayon chopped with butter knife or kitchen chopper. Twistables can be snapped into small pieces or chopped safely from plastic barrel. HINT: Regular crayons will melt liquid and translucent. Twistables will melt semi-liquid with strong, opaque color. Mix them up for best effect. **NOTE:** Erasable crayons do not melt.
5. Place in glass pan and bake for about 8 minutes. Carefully remove pan from heat so as not to spill melted liquid. Allow to cool at least 15 minutes before handling.

National Standards

Content Standard #1 — Understanding and applying media, techniques and processes.

K-4

- Students use art materials and tools in a safe and responsible manner

5-8

- Students select media, techniques and processes; analyze what makes them effective or not effective in communicating ideas; and reflect upon the effectiveness of their choices

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Materials

Crayola® Crayons
assorted color sets (20103-),
Glitter (20100-1016) or
Metallic FX (20135-0169)

Crayola® Twistables
(20125-1089),

Sculpey III Polymer Clay
1-lb white (33218-1109) or
black (33218-2009)

X-Acto™ Crayon Sharpener
(22828-1020)

Rolling Pin 6" (30345-1006)

Wood Shapes Assortment
(60408-1009)

Dough Cutters

Glass pan for baking

Butter knife with non-serrated
edge

Oven, pre-heated to 275°F