

Plentiful Programs

Creative Workshops for Children and Adults

Salt Dough Gift Tags and Ornaments



Materials

3/4 - 1 cup room temp water
1 cup salt
2 cups flour + more for kneading
Baking sheet
Cookie cutters, Jar rings or other objects to make shapes
Parchment paper, wax paper
Rolling pin
Spatula
Skewers or straw



Optional

Food coloring
Raised stamps, sticks, leaves or other objects for decoration
String/wire for hanging
Paint, glitter

Instructions

1. Mix together the water, 3/4 cup flour and salt. Slowly add more flour. You want a fairly stiff dough - not too wet. Mix with a spoon or spatula until everything comes together.



2. Knead. Lightly flour a work surface and place the dough on it. Sprinkle a little more flour on top of the dough and start kneading. If it gets sticky, add more flour. Keep kneading and adding more flour (if you need it) until it's smooth and only slightly sticky. About five minutes. You'll know it's done with it's firm and you can press it down and leave smooth imprint

3. Roll out. Wipe down, dry and re-flour your surface. Roll the dough out until it's between 1/8th and 1/4 inch thick.

(If you're using dried leaves etc. press them in now. Remove before cutting shapes)



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Salt Dough Gift Tags and Ornaments (Cont'd)

4. Cut out using cookie cutter, jar lids or other items. Use thin spatula to place on baking sheet. Use straw or skewer to make a hole near the top of your tag / ornament.

5. Bake or Air dry. Bake at 175 or 200 for 2 to 3 hours turning every 1/2 hour or let air dry for 2 or three days

6. Decorate. Paint, seal, glitter-up. Whatever your heart desires

7. Attach wire, ribbon or string and attach to package or hang up.



Tips

- if you want whiter ornaments, buy bleached flour or see recipe below.
- If you're having issues with dough being sticky, let it sit for 15-20 minutes and try again.
- If you're having problems getting nice shapes out of your dough, cut the shapes, pull away the excess dough and let the shapes dry for a few minutes. It will make it easier to get them onto the cookie sheet.
- These are plain plain, but you can paint them, add glitter to the dough, add essential oils
- You can keep the dough in a sealed container for 3-5 days. Just add a little water or flour as needed once you are ready to use the rest of the saved salt dough. Wrap leftover salt dough in plastic wrap & then place it in a sealed container in the fridge. Bring to room temp before use.

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Variations

White Salt Dough

INGREDIENTS

3/4 Cup White Acrylic Paint
1/2 Cup Water
1 Cup All-Purpose Flour
1/2 Cup Salt



1. In a medium bowl mix 1 cup of flour & 1/2 cup of salt & set to the side.
2. In a smaller bowl mix 3/4 cup of white acrylic paint & 1/2 cup of water until completely combined.
3. Then pour roughly 3/4ths of the white paint water into the salt flour, mix together with a spoon, & add more white paint water as needed until a dough ball forms adding. *(1)
4. Knead for 15-30 seconds to create a workable dough.

Corn Starch Dough

INGREDIENTS

1/2 Corn Starch
1 C. Girl Baking Soda
3/4 C. water
Cookie Cutters
String/ribbon
Straw



DIRECTIONS

1. Combine the corn starch, baking soda and water in a medium sauce pan on medium heat. Stir ingredients until the mixture starts to thicken, about 2-3 minutes, then remove from heat. The mixture should look like mashed potatoes. Let the dough cool for several minutes until it is just warm to the touch.
2. Preheat the oven to 175° F.
3. Place dough onto a cutting board or non-stick surface dusted with corn starch.
4. Knead the dough so that it forms a ball. Keep adding more corn starch if the dough is too sticky. Avoid over-handling the dough, this may cause more cracks when the dough dries.
5. Roll dough to be 1/4-inch thick.
6. Cut out shapes and decorate the ornaments as desired. Use a straw to create a hole large enough for your string or ribbon to fit through.
7. Arrange the shapes on a parchment lined baking sheet.
8. The key to getting perfect ornaments (ones without flakes or cracks) is to dry the ornaments very slowly. Bake them at a low heat, 175° F., for 45-60 minutes. Turn the ornaments over half way. The ornaments are done when they are completely white and your nail can't make a dent in the dough.
9. Let the ornaments cool completely before decorating and adding string to hang them. This only takes a few minutes if you move the ornaments from the baking sheet to a cooling rack.