

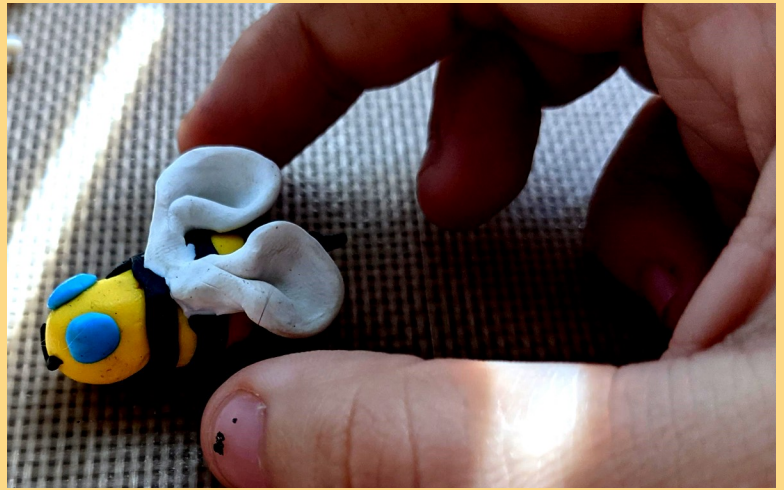
How-To Make Cute Charms

by Craig Wimberly

Learn how to make cute charms out of polymer clay to decorate anything!

Supplies:

Eye pins
Polymer Clay
Polymer Clay tools (butter knife, screw-driver, etc.)
Toaster oven
Baking sheet
Wax paper
Multipurpose glue



Instructions

- 1) Clean your workspace of any dirt or debris. This step is important because any dust on your table will easily collect on your clay while you're working with it. I recommend using anything you have around that's clean and flat as a work space like wax paper.
- 2) Choose your tools. They don't need to be fancy. You can use a butter knife, paper clips, safety pins, etc. You will also pick your colors depending on the project you choose to create.
- 3) Start by kneading each color until it's soft and easy to shape.
 - a) Roll your yellow clay into a thick oval shape.
 - b) Roll your black clay into a thin rope.
 - c) Wrap the black rope around the yellow clay in a spiral.
 - d) Mold them gently until the edges are blended.
 - e) Pinch off 2 tear drop shapes from your white/blue, and affix these to your bee's body. Gently blending the edges until smooth.
 - f) Add 2 more tiny dots of white/blue for your bee's eyes.
- 4) Push your pin into your clay charm and then remove.
- 5) To bake properly, make sure to follow the instructions on your clay's packaging. Usually 275 degrees for 15 minutes will work, but adjust accordingly. If you're not sure, choose a lower temperature and bake for longer while monitoring your piece. Do not use higher temperatures than recommended! It won't set your clay any faster, it will only melt it.
- 6) After baking, apply a small amount of glue to your eye pin and put it back into your charm. Hold in place while glue dries.