

AIR-DRYING CLAY RECIPES

WHICH RECIPE IS THE BEST?

For crack-proof clay, definitely the second recipe: the glue and cornflour clay wins. It is also very strong and durable when it air dries thoroughly.

The best things about the baking soda clay are, that it dries to a beautiful opaque white, shrinks less while drying, and looks amazing when decorated with watercolours or marker pens. However, it is prone to cracking.

1. THE BAKING SODA AND CORNFLOUR AIR DRYING CLAY RECIPE...



- 1 cup of cornflour
- 2 cups of baking soda
- 1.5 cups of water
- You can also add food colouring to either recipe to make coloured clay - try terracotta red, brown or even black for an authentic Ancient Greek effect!

Stir all 3 ingredients together in a non-stick pot, ask a grown-up to put the pot on medium or low heat and cook it for a few minutes, stirring.

The mixture will change from a soft paste to the consistency of mashed potatoes!

IMPORTANT TIP:

If you under cook the baking soda clay dough or use too much water, the dough will be sticky and prone to cracking! Be sure to ask your grown-up to cook it till it pulls away from the pan, then turn off the heat.



Transfer the clay dough to a container and keep it covered while it cools down. Once it is cool, your baking soda air dry clay dough is ready to use!

2. THE GLUE AND CORNFLOUR AIR DRY PORCELAIN CLAY RECIPE

- 1 cup of cornflour
- 1 cup of white craft glue (PVA)
- 1 tablespoon of white vinegar or lemon juice as a preservative
- 1 tablespoon of vegetable oil which creates a smooth silky texture



Mix everything together in a non-stick pan and ask a grown-up to help cook the clay dough in the same way as described in the first recipe. The only difference is that the mixture will start to look like cottage cheese, with little lumps. That's when you would remove it from the heat.

Don't over-cook this dough. It is almost fail proof, but over cooking will turn your dough hard and leathery!



On the internet, you will be able to find instructions to cook the mixture in the microwave, but the stove top version here is better, because everything cooks more evenly and it is much easier to see when the mixture is ready!

This dough is definitely a lot more sticky than the baking soda clay dough in the first recipe. You should use plenty of cornflour for dusting and rolling when sculpting with the dough.

Have fun sculpting with your homemade clay dough!