

What types of adhesives do you recommend for oven-bake clay?

Test any adhesive first to check for compatibility with our clays.

We recommend: Super Glue GEL (not liquid), silicone glues (GOOP, E-6000) and FLEXIBLE types of hot melt glues. The white craft glues (Tacky Glue, Elmer's Glue) tend to pop off because they are not flexible.

For an excellent clay to clay bond (whether raw to raw, raw to baked, baked to baked), use Sculpey® Bake & Bond™ or Translucent Liquid Sculpey®. Both require baking to become an adhesive.

Can I cure oven-bake clay in a microwave oven?

NO! Microwave ovens generally have hot spots and are difficult to set exact temperatures. If oven-bake clays are positioned in these hot spots, they can undergo thermal breakdown very quickly, due to the efficiency of microwave energy, and may char or emit fumes. Furthermore, polymer clays are not formulated to be cured by this method.

Customize Your Clay

Polymer clay consistency can easily be adjusted. If the clay is too soft, try this easy method—

- Protect the work surface with wax paper or foil.
- Roll the clay into a sheet and place sheet of clay between several sheets of copy paper or newsprint, do not use printed paper as the print will transfer to the clay.
- Place a sheet of wax paper or foil over the top sheets of paper.
- Use a book as a weight on top of the papers.
- Leave the clay for a few hours, check for your desired consistency.

If the clay is harder than preferred it can be softened by adding a small amount of Sculpey® Clay Softener. Add a small amount at a time until you achieve your perfect consistency.



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Polymer Clay Basics



What is polymer clay?

Polymer clay, often referred to as oven-bake clay, is a synthetic modeling material that bakes (cures) at low temperatures in a home oven. Polymer clay does not air dry—it stays soft and pliable until it is baked.

Uses

Polymer clay is the perfect medium for jewelry, model making, miniatures, paper crafting, sculpting, ornaments, doll making, kids projects and school projects. Once cured it can be sanded, drilled and painted with acrylic paints. It's perfect for all age groups.

Original Sculpey®—perfect for kids crafts and school projects

Sculpey III®—a great choice for figurines, ornaments and basic jewelry

premo! Sculpey®—ideal for advanced polymer clay techniques such as caning, mokume gane and mica shift

Super Sculpey®—perfect for sculpture and doll making

Pluffy®—great for kids; it is soft and squishy, making it fun to play with. Pluffy even floats.

Safety

- Polymer clay in both the raw, uncured state and baked state is completely safe. All of our clays have been fully tested to conform to all regulations.
- Do not ingest clay.
- Do not make items which will be used to hold or to serve food or beverages or for smoking materials.
- Use dedicated tools, such as sculpting tools or a pasta machine and work surfaces such as baking sheets or glass dishes for clay purposes only.
- Protect work surface. Clays may stain or damage finished surfaces.
- Do not exceed the recommended baking temperature or time. Do not use a microwave oven.
- Use an oven thermometer and follow the recommended baking temperature.
- Use good ventilation in the baking area.
- Wash hands before and after use, and in between colors..

Work Surfaces

Good working surfaces include the Sculpey® Clay Mat, clay dedicated glass or metal baking dishes, ceramic tiles, aluminum foil, wax paper and unlined index cards.

Conditioning

The process of conditioning is the warming and kneading of polymer clay to prepare it for use. The clay should be kneaded manually or passed through the rollers of a clay dedicated pasta machine several times prior to use. The amount of conditioning

depends upon the product characteristics and personal preference on clay consistency. Failure to fully condition can result in a weak finished product and an increased chance of breakage.

Baking

Polymer clay is not an air dry material. It needs to be cured in a conventional home or toaster oven; it does not require the use of high temperature kilns as ceramic clays. Follow the recommended baking temperature and time as listed on the packaging.

Storage

Proper storage is essential to ensure freshness. The clay should be stored in a very cool, dry place, unexposed to sunlight. Refrigeration or freezing can extend the shelf life considerably.

Common Questions

Can I bake polymer clay on wood, paper mache or glass to embellish it?

Yes. Clay bakes at a low temperature. Wood, paper mache or glass will not burn or be harmed at that temperature.

If I bake the clay at a lower temperature will it harden?

All polymer clay must be baked according to the package directions. Clay baked at a lower temperature will not cure properly resulting in cracks and brittleness.

What's the best way to clean-up?

Baby wipes are the most simple and effective clean-up for tools and hands.

Is polymer clay safe?

Safety and environmental stewardship are responsibilities that we take very seriously at Polyform.

We are proactive in keeping up to date on the latest safety regulations, and strive to provide the highest quality products with safety as our number one priority.

Polyform Products Company is a member of the Art and Creative Materials Institute (ACMI), the leading authority on art and creative materials. Through this membership, all of our products undergo rigorous toxicological testing before they are allowed to bear the ACMI certification seals. All children's products we manufacture are phthalate free and lead free and conform to the standards of the CPSIA. In addition, all of our products are free of wheat, gluten, sulfur, dairy, nuts, latex and animal by-products, and they are never tested on animals.

