



Sculpture House®

Della Robbia Oven Bake Clay

INSTRUCTIONS

Always allow ample working space. Moisten Della Robbia Miracle Clay to keep it pliable and easy to handle. Cover work that is to be left overnight with a wet cloth or plastic wrapper to prevent drying.

Coil Building: Roll equal lengths of cigar-shaped coils in sufficient quantity to build desired object. Place the coils on a work base of Formica©, cheesecloth, etc. Coils can then be rolled smooth with either a rolling pin or the side of a glass and fused together after moistening with a sponge. Let dry thoroughly for *at least* one week if the object is thick, and up to four weeks for a solid sculpture.

Pinch Pot: Roll the desired amount of Della Robbia Clay into a ball shape. Place this on your work surface and press your thumb into the center. Using a rotating motion, pinch the clay outward and up with thumb and fingers to the required shape and height. Smooth with damp sponge if desired. Dry piece as above.

Figures and Sculpture: Della Robbia may be used to make solid or hollow sculpture. For small figures, the basic parts may be made separately or as one whole unit. If made separately, fuse pieces together by scratching criss-crossed lines on ends and sticking together with slip. (Slip is made by mixing water with clay to a "toothpaste" consistency.) Dry piece as above.

Important Note: Armatures or supports such as toothpicks, wire, etc. must be removed from Della Robbia (or *any* ceramic clay) before drying or cracks will result. *For best results allow piece to dry slowly at room temperature.*

Baking: Each piece made with Della Robbia must be allowed to dry thoroughly. Thin pieces will dry in a few days. Larger, hollow pieces may require a week of drying time. Solid pieces, heads, figures and animals, usually require at least two weeks of drying time. When piece has completely dried, place it in a cold oven. Set the oven to 150°F until piece is warmed through. *Then* raise the temperature to 250°F for about 30-60 minutes. Keep oven door *open* approximately two inches during baking. Allow piece to cool before decorating with acrylic paints.

For decorative use only; not for outdoor use or as a container for liquids.

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