

BROWNIE: POTTER

Hey Girl Scout! Have you ever wanted to get your hands dirty and make a cool piece you could use? This is your time! With this badge explore the history of clay art and become a clay artist yourself. When you've earned this badge, you'll be able to make your own projects out of clay.

Step 1: Find some pottery.

1. Start this adventure by finding the pottery that is all around you. Begin an artist notebook to write down your ideas and draw pictures of something you have seen.
2. Keep your eyes peeled for the clay in your life. Spend some time walking around your house to see all the things you can spot that are made of clay. Don't forget to write them in your notebook.
3. Then look in books, magazines, or online for clay things. Research what things may have been made of clay in the past. Keep a list of all of your items in your notebook.

Supplies:

1. Notebook
2. Pencils
3. Computer

Step 2: Get to know clay.

1. Now is your chance to learn about clay. Watch the following video to get some background knowledge of clay. When you have finished watching the video research other types of clay and clay uses. Keep notes about clay in your notebook.
2. [Clay!](#)

Supplies:

1. Notebook
2. Pencils
3. Computer

Step 3: Make a simple pot.

1. Clay has been used for thousands of years to make pots. Pots hold our flower, carry water, hold our food and drinks. Now we are going to make our own simple pot that can hold jewelry, candy, or pencils.
2. You can make a pinch pot or a coil pot. To make a pinch pot, you first need a ball of clay. Then use your thumbs to make a dent in the ball. Then pinch around the dent to make the sides of the pot. Start from the bottom and work up. Try to make your pot have an even thickness all the way around.
3. To make a coil pot, roll out a ball of clay into a 1/4inch thickness. Then cut a circular base. Then roll lumps of clay into snakes to make the coils. Scratch lines across your snakes and around the edge of your base. Then moisten with a little bit of water. Press the first coil to the base. then keep going until your pot is as tall as you want.

Supplies:

1. Clay (air dry or oven bake)
2. Toothpicks
3. Water

Step 4: Make an art piece.

1. Now it is time to practice those skills, and make some decorations out of clay! You can either decorate a tile or make beads for jewelry.
2. To make the tile you turn a square of clay into art. Try making a handprint or stamping designs. Or use small tools like pencils or tweezers, to draw designs in your tile. When it is dry, paint it with acrylic paints.
3. To make beads for jewelry, roll balls of clay into beads. Then use a toothpick to make holes so you can string them together. You can use colored modeling clay or paint them.

Supplies:

1. Clay (air dry or oven bake)
2. Tools (pencil, tweezers, toothpicks, etc)

Step 5: Paint and glaze!

1. Glaze is a special clay paint. It helps to add shine to your art. For this step you want to use clay that is already fired. This is called bisque ware and you can find it at a potter-paint store.
2. You can dip your pottery, paint the glaze on or use a sponge. If you dip your pot make sure there is extra room in the container and keep your pottery level. If you paint use a regular paintbrush and try to keep the paint even. If you use a sponge, dip the sponge in the paint and press gently onto your pottery.