



Crafts by Chris

www.craftsbychrisonline.com

Two-tone Lentil Tutorial

Supplies Needed:

~polymer clay in two colors of choice for base beads (pick two colors that are close to each other on the color wheel. ie - red/orange, orange/yellow, yellow/green, green/blue, blue/purple, purple/red)

Tools Needed:

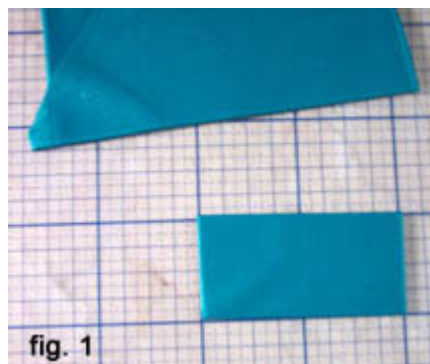
~tissue blade or something sharp to cut with (ie - xacto knife)

~pasta machine and cutters or ruler and something sharp to cut with like a tissue blade or an xacto knife.

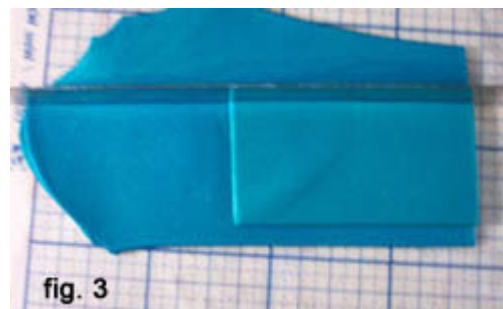
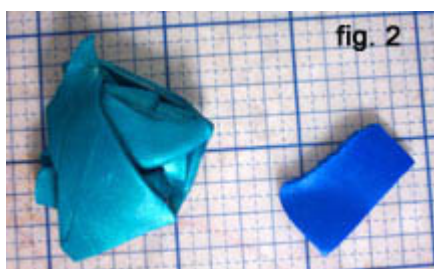
~needle tool or a toothpick

Instructions:

Step 1. You will be making a very simple cane. Start with approximately 1/2 block of each of the two colors of clay you will be using. The example uses green (color 1) and blue (color 2). Start with color 1 and roll out a sheet of clay using the thickest setting on your pasta machine or roll out using a rolling pin to approximately 1/16th of an inch. Then cut the sheet into a 1 by 2 inch slab. (*Refer to fig. 1*)



Step 2. Next, take a large piece of color 1 and add a small amount of color 2. (*Refer to fig. 2*) Mix the two colors together until completely mixed. You should see a slight color change. If not mix in a little more color 2. Roll this new color out into a sheet and cut another 1 by 2 inch slab. (*Refer to fig. 3*)



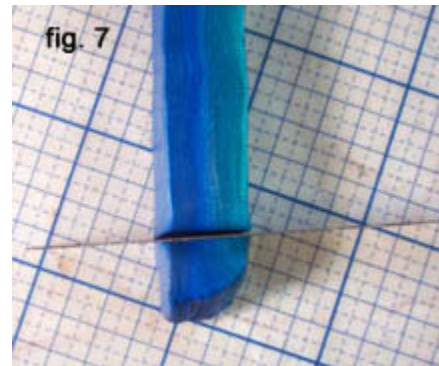
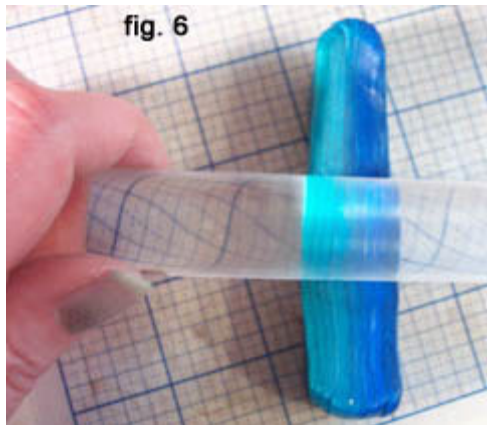
Step 3. Take what's left of your new color (after cutting out the 1 by 2 inch slab), and add a little more of color 2. Mix completely, roll out, and cut another slab. you will keep repeating this until you have a stack of approximately 10 slabs. (Refer to fig. 4)

Step 4. You are now going to reduce the cane. Start by squeezing on all four sides starting in the center and working you way out to the ends. (Refer to fig. 5)



Step 5. Then to even out the cane, starting in the center, using your rolling pin, roll out to the ends. Turn 1/4 turn and repeat. Do this for all four sides. (Refer to fig. 6)

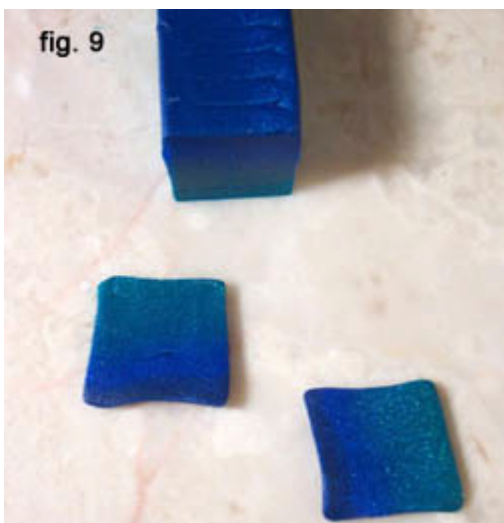
Step 6. Cut off the uneven ends of the cane. (Refer to fig. 7)



Step 7. Roll a ball of clay. This can be scrap clay as you will completely cover it with cane slices. (Refer to fig. 8)



Step 8. Cut 2 thin slices from the cane. (*Refer to fig. 9*) and wrap the slices around your base bead. (*Refer to fig. 10*)



Step 9. Be sure to pinch the edges closed or you will be able to see the base bead color. (*Refer to fig. 11*)

Step 10. Then squeeze into a somewhat rounded shape. (*Refer to fig. 12*)



Step 11. Roll into a ball.

Step 12. Slightly flatten ball in the center of the palm of your hands. This will create a domed top and bottom. (*Refer to fig. 13*)

Step 13. Pinch edge lightly going around the bead. (*Refer to fig. 14*)



Step 14. The clay gets softer as you work with it. So, it's better to let the beads sit awhile before putting the holes in them.

Step 15. Using your needle tool or toothpick, pierce the bead in about half way, using a twisting motion. Then go in on the opposite side until you meet the hole coming in from the other side.

Step 16. Put beads on a piece of wire that sits on your baking rack or lay them on quilt batting on a cookie sheet.

Step 17. Bake for time and temperature recommended on clay package.

Step 18. Sand and buff your beads once they have cooled. Do not put any kind of finish on the beads yet. Now you are ready to embellish your beads with flowers using the Hibiscus Cane Tutorial.