

STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS

Sculpting a Clay Face

By Ajay Jacobs

Ajay's Art Foundation

Requirements

- Earthenware or terracotta clay
- Moisture resistant surface to work on i.e. metal or plastic
- Incision tool (same as pottery) or a kebab stick

Instructions

Step 1

Place a ball shaped piece of clay onto a coiled neck and shape the ball into an oval.

Step 2

Press the hollows for your eyes into the centre of your oval with your thumbs, leaving an equal space between them.

Step 3

Shape a nose by adding a triangle of clay to your head from the eyes to about quarter down the head.

Step 4

Roll small strips of clay for the eyebrows and lips. Position then and shape them according to your liking. Add eyelids in the shape of half-moons and slit the irises with an incision tool.

Step 5

Add balls of clay to the cheekbone area and shape them into the adjoining areas. Add a chin and stronger jawline if necessary.

Step 6

Use strips of clay to shape hair strands and add to the head – create any style you like.

Step 7

Let the sculpture rest for two days at room temperature and then remove some of the clay from the base of the neck to create an underpass. Leave the sculpture to dry completely and, if you prefer, have a potter fire it for you in the kiln to make it more robust.

Step 8

Paint it or varnish it according to your preference or leave it as is for a natural finish.

Your masterpiece is complete!





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