

Created by Lex Sorrentino, Snow Fairy is a delightful polymer clay project using the new 'Pardo Clay' which contains all natural beeswax. Pardo is a Phthalate free clay. See the accompanying project for instructions on how to make her magnificent chair.

Snow Fairy

MATERIALS

- 400 grams (approximately) of Pardo (platinum colour) clay (or any other Polymer clay)
- 10mm eyes, either glass, acrylic or pre-baked clay
- Wire, 1.5mm thickness (coat hanger wire is OK, just harder to bend)
- Tie wire
- Paper tape
- Aluminium foil.
- 10 gram weight (eg lead sinker)
- A tile or baking dish
- Wadding to fit on your tile or in the baking dish
- Sharp knife
- Small scissors
- Sculpting tool or knitting needle
- Acrylic paint for face and nails
- Sealer (Mattisse Polymer Matt Varnish)
- Craft smart craft glue
- Angora hair or wig – I used a Monique 'Starr' wig, 4-5 inch
- Fabric for clothing
- Feather wool for leg wrapping
- Trimmings of your choice (braid, ribbons, lace, beads, etc)

MATERIALS FOR WINGS (OPTIONAL)

- Dip it Treasure Trove Resin (I used Pearl colour)
- 20 gauge coated wire
- Fine glitter
- Polystyrene block to dry wings on
- If making large wings, you will need a tray to pour your 'Dip it' into. If it's a plastic tray, test compatibility before pouring
- Small wings can be dipped into the tin

The Snow Fairy is designed to sit on a chair or over the edge of a shelf.

The height of the finished seated doll is 30cm; actual length of doll is approximately 35cm.

INSTRUCTIONS

Read all instructions before you begin. The doll will need to fit in your oven, therefore after making the wire framework check to see if she fits in your oven (lying down). It may be necessary to reduce the size of your wire framework.

To understand the shape and contours needed in your sculpting, it is a good idea to look at your own hands, feet, face and ears.

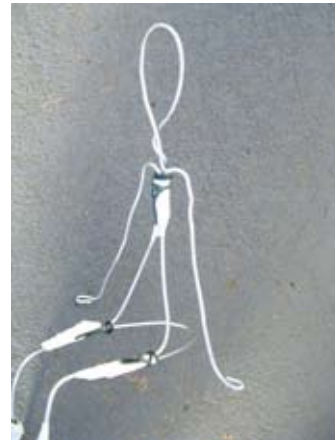
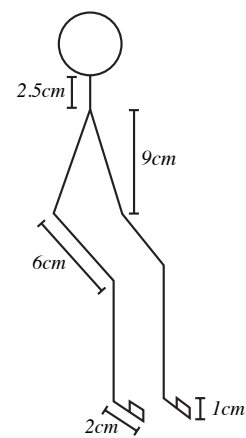
ARMATURE

Cut one piece of wire, 70cm long, and bend in half. At the fold, leave a circle for the head, approximately the size of a 10 cent piece. Twist the wire three times below the head to form the neck. The neck should measure 2.5cm. It will appear a little long at this stage.

From the head/neck junction, measure down 9cm and bend the wires forward at right angles to the body. This will be the thighs.

Measure another 6cm from this right angle and bend the wire down, this will be the knee bend and the remaining wire will form the lower legs. Check leg length is the same, then turn the ends of each wire over 1cm and turn the loops so they lie flat within the foot. This loop helps prevent the foil and clay from sliding off your framework. To make a foot shape, bend 2cm back from the turned end of the wire.





To give some depth to her bottom, cut another wire 16cm long. Bend in half, leaving the wires approximately 3cm apart. Leave the folded edge 3cm out behind the upright wires,

and tape/tie-wire ends along the thighs. This will help your fairy to balance whilst seated on a chair or shelf.

For the arms, cut a piece of wire 35cm long. Fold in half and squeeze

together. From each end, measure up 13cm and bend at right angles. This measurement will be the arms and shoulders. The remainder of the wire is taped/wired to the upper body. Turn each end of the wire up 8mm, turning the loop so it lays flat in the palm of the hand.

Cover all wire with foil, thickening at thighs and upper arms and keeping foil to a minimum on ankles, wrists and neck. Position your weight or sinker into the bottom of your fairy, and then pad with foil. Add width to the chest by padding with foil. 'Boobs' are made entirely from clay.

Using foil, form a head shape over and through your wire, squeezing firmly. Check the head measurement to ensure the wig fits. Remember you still have to add the clay.

SCULPTING

Wash hands before and after using the clay. Try and keep your clay clean from any fluff or dirt. Take three balls of Pardo clay, and warm it in your hands. Pardo clay comes in pre-rolled balls of equal sizes. Roll into a ball and flatten into your palms to a 3mm thickness. Cover the face and head. Try not to stretch the clay.

Fill in any uncovered sections at the back of the head, and cut off excess clay. Blend joins using your fingers and sculpting tools. If using a wig, measure the head and trim off or add clay until your head measurement matches the wig size.

EYES

Position the eyes halfway between the top of the forehead and the bottom of the chin. Cut a hole into the clay, opening wide enough to insert the eyes (one eye width between the eyes).

Put a little clay on the back of the eyes, and push into eye sockets. Gently push the clay around the eyes.

For eyelids, roll four small snakes of clay. Attach these onto the top and bottom of each eye, making sure the clay touches the iris. Add clay pieces for the brow, nose, lips (top and bottom), chin and cheeks.

Blend and shape the face with tools/fingers.

EARS

If your doll has lots of hair, you may choose not to have ears. For the ears, roll two pea sized balls of clay; flatten and pull one end out to a point. Position the ears between the back and the front of the head. Make sure they are positioned between the eyebrow and the top lip line. Attach by pushing into the ear, making an ear hole. Add ear detail.

BODY

The torso and arms will be covered with clay, leaving the lower body until after the first bake.

Take five balls of clay and cover the front of the body using a rectangular piece of clay, 3mm thick.



Approximately six balls of clay will be needed to cover the back of the body; once again use a rectangular piece of clay, 3mm thick. Connect at the sides by rubbing with your finger and/or tool. Roll two pea sized balls for the boobs. Flatten the top third and press onto the chest. Blend and shape. If having wings, make two holes in the upper back.

ARMS

Bend your arms into position. Make a rectangle of clay approximately 14cm long, 2.5cm wide and 3mm thick. Place each rectangle of clay over the arms; pinch together and cut off excess clay. Add more clay to the upper arm if more thickness or shape is needed. Thin the wrist by rolling between the fingers.

Make a paddle shape for the hands and use scissors to cut fingers. Gently roll each finger to give them a better shape.

Using a sharp knife, add fingernail detail.

FIRST BAKE

To bake, cover a tile or baking tray with nylon wadding and lay your doll on this. The wadding will prevent your doll from changing shape. Using a smooth, warm stone, smooth all clay. Lay your doll on nylon wadding in your baking tray or on a tile. Bake at 120°C for 25 minutes, making sure all clay and wadding is kept away from the oven elements.

LOWER BODY

Once cooled, cover the lower part of the body and base with clay, adding shape to her bottom. Be sure to make a smooth connection onto the baked clay.

LEGS

Flatten two rectangles of clay, approximately 8cms long, 6cms wide and 3mm thick. Place the rectangles over each thigh and pinch together, cutting off excess.

Form two more rectangles of clay and cover the lower leg. Add more clay to shape legs if needed, and trim excess. Reduce the ankle, shape the feet, and cut the toes with small scissors. Add the nail details with a sharp knife. Smooth with a warm stone.

BAKING

Lay your doll on the wadding in the baking dish or tile; make sure the clay only touches the wadding.

Bake at 120°C for 45 minutes ensuring the doll is kept away from all oven elements. Leave in oven to cool. If cracks have formed, fill with clay and bake for another 15 minutes.

FINISHING

Paint eye-shadow, eye-liner, lashes, lips and blush with Jo Sonya's acrylics, using the colours of your choice.

Seal with Matisse Polymer Matt Varnish.





COSTUME

To make the stockings, add craft glue a little at a time; up the inside of the leg and over hips attach feather wool, spiralling up the leg and around the lower body.

For the skirt, you will need to cut a piece of fabric 100cm long. The depth should be equal to the waist to ankle measurement.

Fold in half and sew together. This seam will be the centre back. Turn and finish hem.

Turn the skirt inside-out and line up CF on top of the CB seam. Mark a quarter of the hip measurement either side of the CB seam. From each side fold, sew into this point (using a 5mm seam allowance). Turn the fabric right side out. You should have a hole in the top edge that should fit over your doll's hips.

Using a top stitch thread, run a drawstring around this opening. Pull skirt over hips, pull the drawstring tight and tie off. The long points of fabric fall down each side of the body.

BODICE

Cut a rectangle 6cm wide, 34cm long. Beginning at centre back waist, place the fabric over one shoulder, down over one breast, taking it around the waist to the front and up over the other breast and shoulder. Finishing on the waist at centre back, stitch in place and trim excess. Tuck in ends to neaten off.

Finish off the neckline by gathering a piece of lace to form a ruffle, then tie firmly at the back of the neck. For sleeves, stitch or glue lace over each arm – tucking in the edges around the armhole.

Embellish with feathers, ribbons and lace.

WIG

Coat inside of wig with craft glue and position onto head.

WINGS

CONSTRUCTION METHOD

Draw a wing shape and lay wire onto the pattern. Cut the wires 2cm longer than the finished pattern. Twist the ends together for 1.5cm.

Holding the twisted wires, dip into the liquid and pull out vertically, making sure a bubble has formed between each wire.

Hold this for about 20 seconds, then turn the wings and push the twisted wire into the polystyrene and sprinkle with glitter (if desired). When dry, attach the wings by putting a little craft glue onto the twisted wires and carefully pushing them into the holes on the back of the fairy.

I hope you have fun making your fairy. Now take a look at the instructions for making a fabulous chair for your fairy.

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Snow Fairy's Chair

Created by Lex Sorrentino, this amazing chair is just perfect for Lex's Snow Fairy.

MATERIALS

- Coat hanger wire
- Apoxie sculpt, 1 pound
- Masking tape
- Cardboard
- Tie wire
- Acrylic paint (black and silver)
- Pliers

Height of chair from floor to seat is xxx cm, and floor to top of chair is xxx cm.

METHOD

Cut two back legs the length required and turn the ends at the top and bottom. Front legs can be cut in one piece; up one leg, to the back leg wire, across the back of the chair, coming forward to the front and down for the other front leg. Turn the

ends at the bottom of each wire. Tape and tie with tie-wire.

Cut eight more wires for the cross bars between the legs, leave 2cm extra at each end to tape to the chair legs. Cut two wires for the back rest, tape and wire on into position. More wires may be added if desired.

Cut a piece of cardboard to fit the chair seat, tape into position and cover with foil. If a thicker leg is needed, pad out with foil. Pad each chair foot with a little foil.

Knead equal parts of Apoxie sculpt until the colour has blended together.

Cover all wire and foil with Apoxie sculpt, twisting to add character. Add vines by rolling ropes of Apoxie and placing into position on chair legs. Cover the feet with Apoxie, roll

fingers and thumbs and place in position over the balls (on the feet). You can leave the feet plain if you prefer.

Apoxie sculpt takes 2-3 hours to harden a little, and 24 hours to cure completely. Paint the chair using black acrylic paint; when dry, lightly dry brush with silver.

The chair can be painted before it has completely cured.

Finished doll in chair.

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