

*Pink is a delightful polymer clay project
by Lex Sorrentino.*

Pretty in Pink

MATERIALS

- 454 grams Light Beige Living Doll Clay (by Sculpey)
- Wooden block approximately 11cm tall, to seat your sculpture
- 28cm of 1mm thick tie wire for armature, (available from hardware stores)
- Aluminium foil
- 12mm eyes, either glass, acrylic or pre-baked clay
- Sculpting tool or knitting needle
- Knife to cut clay
- Small scissors
- Wig or Angora for hair – I used a Monique 'Jo Jo' wig 5-6 inch
- Acrylic paint for face and nails
- Sealer (Matisse Polymer Matt Varnish)
- Craft Smart Craft Glue
- Fabric for clothing
- Trimmings, such as braid, beads etc

Size of finished doll: 20cm

READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE YOU BEGIN

The Doll and base will need to fit in your oven. To understand the shapes and contours needed in your sculpting, it is a good idea to look at your own hands, feet, face and ears.



ARMATURE

Fold wire in half. Leaving a head shape the size of a 10 cent piece, twist remaining wires together (for the neck and body). Drill a hole in your base and position the wire frame into this hole (Photo 1). Cover the exposed wire thinly with foil giving the head and body shape (Photo 2), do not add too much foil or the doll will be quite large when covered with clay.

SCULPTURE

Wash hands before using the clay. Cut a 1cm thick slice from your block of Living Doll clay. Hold and squeeze until slightly warm, then roll into a snake and bend in half. Repeat rolling and bending until the clay has softened and no longer cracks when bent. Roll into a ball, then flatten in the palm of your hand 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), cut off excess clay. Blend joins using your fingers and sculpting tool. If using a wig, measure the head. Trim off or add on clay until your head measurement matches the wig size.

EYES

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



Photo 1



Photo 2





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 to 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 tool/fingers (Photos 3-5).

EARS

Roll two pea-sized balls of clay. Flatten and pull one end out to a point. Position the ears halfway between the back and front of head; make sure they are positioned between the eyebrow and top lip line. Attach by pushing onto the ear making an ear hole. Add ear detail (Photos 6-7).

BODY

Cover the front and back of the body. Use a rectangular piece of clay 3mm



thick for each, connecting at the sides and covering the bottom of your armature. Add two balls of clay and blend to form her bottom. Add



extra clay onto the hips if you want wide hips. Roll two pea-sized balls for the 'boobs'. Flatten the top third and press onto the chest. Blend and shape (Photo 8).

ARMS

Roll two snakes approximately 14cm long and 12mm thick. Attach one to each shoulder and blend the connection. Check the arm length. When the arm is straight down, the wrist should be level with the crotch. Trim or lengthen if

necessary (Photo 9).

To form the hand, flatten into a paddle shape 4mm thick. Reduce the size of the wrist by rolling between the fingers. Using small scissors, cut four fingers into the paddle. Spread the fingers apart and gently roll each one to shape them, stretching or trimming where necessary. Roll a small piece of clay for the thumb and add onto the hand. Using a sharp knife, press nail shapes into each finger. Use your own hand as a guide for detailing.





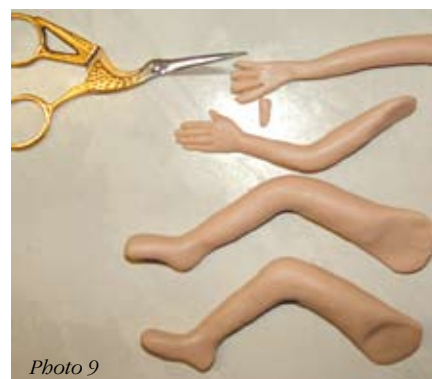
Because there is no armature, arms and legs will have to be supported (or resting) on the body or base. During the baking process the clay has a tendency to droop (Photos 10-11).

LEGS

Roll two snakes approximately 16cm long and 2cm thick. Flatten one end of each and attach to the outer hip. Blend the connection. Bend the knees and push thighs together. Reduce the ankle size and form a foot (check your own foot for shape). Cut toes with small scissors; add nail details with a sharp knife.

BAKING

Smooth the clay. A smooth stone (heated with hot water) works well. If wings are to be used, place two holes in the back of your doll. After baking, glue wing wires into the holes.



Keeping the sculpture away from the elements or gas flame, bake for 45 minutes at 120 degrees C, checking occasionally. Leave in the oven until cool. Fill any cracks which may have formed with clay and re-bake for 15 minutes.

FINISHING

Paint eyebrows, lashes, lips, cheeks and nails. Seal with a Matt Sealer.

COSTUME

The bra strip measures approximately 20cm long by 3cm wide, tapering at each end. Glue/tie a ribbon in the centre of the bra and then place the bra into position and tie at the back.

For the tights you will need to cut two rectangular strips the length (measure from waist to ankle) and width of the leg. At the centre back of each leg, glue one side of the tights. Let it dry, then stretch the other side to meet at the



centre back, trimming where necessary; then glue into position. If there is not enough fabric to cover the tummy and hips you will need to cut two pieces of fabric in the shape of underpants, then glue into position.

For the skirt, use a stretch fabric; cut a full circle 8cm in diameter then cut a 3cm long hole in the centre of the circle. Stretch this over your doll's head and position around waist or hips. If desired, add braid to hem and waistband.

After dressing, attach the wig or hair with Craft Smart Craft Glue.

I hope you enjoy making your doll!

Kits available.

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