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polymer clay
by an artist...
for artists"

Donna Kato



kato polyclay™

Project Sheet

Heart Lariat Necklace

By Donna Kato

Mica Shift (Chatoyant) Techniques

Pioneered by artists such as Pier Voulkos and Mike Buessler, this family of techniques create spectacular results! In this project, the presence of mica particles in our metallic Pearl clay, create a dimensional effect when rolled, trimmed, twisted and sliced. This particular technique borrows from both Voulkos and Buessler.

Custom colors may be mixed - add Red to Pearl - as I've done in this project. The greater the ratio of metallic to colored clay, the greater the chatoyant effect.

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project ideas and tips at
www.katopolyclay.com



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Full instructions on back...

Heart Lariat Necklace

Materials:

- Kato Polyclay™ (3 oz. pkg.):
Black #12311
Pearl #12389
Red #12303
- Kato Nublade™
- Kato Clay Roller™
- Small round cutter
Optional: Heart shaped cutter
- Pasta machine
- Buna cord
- Needle tool or bamboo skewer - same diameter as stringing cord
- Cyanoacrylate glue (Super Glue type)

1. Preparation: Mix 1 part Red to 2 parts Pearl. You will need approximately 1/4 package in total volume of mixed color clay. Fold and roll through pasta machine on the thickest setting 10 times. From one edge, roll up tightly to make cylinder. Trim both ends. (fig. 1)

2. Square the cylinder; stand up on end and slice from top to bottom to make 4 sides. (fig. 2)

3. Smooth corners; lay piece on one side and roll in one direction (either away or toward you) automatically making the piece "stripe". Apply more

7. Heart Pendant: From base sheet, free cut the heart shape or cut a heart using a cutter. Position the patterned sheet on the cut heart shape. Flip over and trim using Kato Nublade. Repeat, covering the other side with remaining patterned sheet, then trim excess away. Roll both sides with Kato Clay Roller, expelling any air pockets from between sheets. Roll a thin sheet of Black. Cut a strip long enough to wrap around and wide enough to cover the sides of heart. Line up edge of strip with one side of heart



pressure on one end as you roll to taper that end. Finish by twisting the fat end by hand and trimming it with Kato Nublade. (fig. 3)

4. Form a snail shape by rolling up tightly from tapered end. Stand snail up and thinly slice from both sides of snail. Lay slices before you. The slices that exhibit the best effect will be used last as you make your patterned sheet. (fig. 4)

5. Patterned sheet: Roll a medium thin sheet of Red approximately 3" by 3". Place several cut slices on sheet and roll through pasta machine on the same setting as the Red sheet. Continue, adding several slices at a time and rolling through until the sheet is decorated as desired. As you add and roll slices, the sheet will become larger.

6. Base sheet: Roll Black clay through thickest setting of pasta machine. Fold in half to create double thickness. Roll with Kato Clay Roller to expel any air pockets from between layers.

and wrap around, cut end of strip. Trim excess clay as necessary.

8. Disc piece: Repeat steps 6 and 7 using a small round cutter instead of cutting a heart shape.

9. Stringing Holes/Pendant: On side of pendant, using skewer, pierce and drill cord receptacle hole between heart lobes to a depth of 1/4". Roll a small ball of Black, drop in hole and re-drill through ball. Disc piece: Drill through from one side to the other. Approx. 1/8" to the side of the first hole, drill only one cord receptacle hole 1/4" deep. Roll 3 small Black balls, drop in holes, re-drill with skewer.

10. Bake pieces at 275 F (135 C) for 30 minutes.

11. Finish: If you wish, sand and polish pendant. Glue Buna cord into receptacle hole in heart. Thread cord through the hole in disc. Glue cord end into receptacle hole in disc. Wait until glue is set before wearing.

• Into your scrap clay try mixing Copper or Gold, the addition of a bit of these colors yields a rich, earthy color.

• Optional Finish - Sanding and polishing: For maximum sheen you may wish to sand and polish your cured pieces. Add a few drops of dishwashing soap to a shallow bowl of water. In water, first sand pieces with 320 grit wet/dry sandpaper, then follow with 400 and, if desired, 600. High Gloss Finish - Using light circular motions, buff piece against a muslin wheel fitted on an electric buffer. Satin Finish - hand buff on denim or polar fleece.

See katopolyclay.com for more helpful hints



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