

"The first
polymer clay
by an artist...
for artists"

Donna Kato



Project Sheet

kato polyclay™

Christmas Cone Ornament

By Donna Kato



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What makes these simple ornaments so special is the "Skinner Blend". This method, in which a sheet of perfectly graded color is made from polymer clay has forever altered and enhanced the look of polymer clay art.



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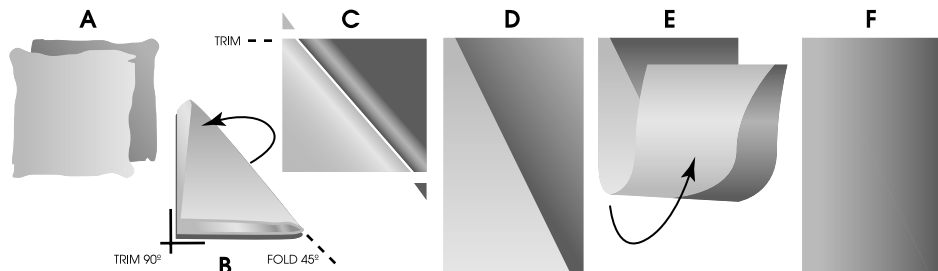
Full instructions on back...

Christmas Cone Ornament

1. Make the paper cone: Trace the outline of a dessert plate onto heavy paper or Bristol board. My example is 7.5" diameter. Cut out the circle, fold in half and cut the halves apart. Make a cone shape from one half, and tape securely. Save the other half for step 4.

on the rollers and pass through again. F—Repeat folding and rolling through until you have a blended sheet with no streaks. With every fold and roll, the sheet will become wider.

4. Covering the form: place the saved paper from step 1. on the clay sheet and cut around the



2. Mix Colors: Mix half a package each of Pearl+Violet, and Pearl+Turquoise. The larger the cone, the more clay you will need.

3. Skinner Blend: This innovative technique, in which a sheet of perfectly graded color is made, was introduced to the polymer clay industry by Judith Skinner. The basis for a simple two part Skinner Blend is a triangle.

A—Make each color the exact same size and shape by first creating two square sheets (rolled at thickest pasta machine setting). **B**—Next, fold each into a triangle and place one on top of the other, lining up the diagonal edge. Use a blade and drafting triangle to trim a 90° opposite the fold. **C**—Butt the diagonal edges together. The corners should not meet... rather, they should be offset slightly, with a small "tab" of each color extending beyond the sides. Trim the tab (this keeps the original pure color at each end of the gradation). **D**—Roll through the pasta machine on the thickest setting. Clay will stretch to double its original length. **E**—After rolling, fold the sheet lengthwise, place the folded edge

shape (If the clay sheet isn't large enough, set the pasta machine to a thinner setting and roll through). Wrap the clay around the paper form. Cut away excess clay with Kato Nublade so there is no overlap (butt joint). Smooth joint with fingers or roll with Kato Clay Roller. Smooth and refine upper lip of clay cone. Press any air pockets from between the form and clay.

5. Cutting decorative holes: Holes are made by pressing a cutter (straw) into the clay and removing the cut outs. Cut two holes opposite one another 1/4 to 1/2" below the upper lip of the cone. You may randomly cut more holes or arrange them according to a pattern of your choice.

6. Curing: Bake the clay in a 275° F oven for 30 minutes. Allow to cool, then remove paper cone.

7. Finishing: Cut the ribbon into two 8" pieces. Through the two opposing holes near lip, thread one piece of ribbon. To secure, tie a knot in the ribbon - this knot hides inside the cone. Tie loose

Materials:

- Kato Polyclay™ (3 oz. pkg.):
Turquoise #12307
Violet #12305
Pearl #12389
- Kato Nublade™
- Kato Clay Roller™
- Pasta machine
- Bristol board (heavy paper)
- Small round cutter (drinking straw)
- 16" Ribbon to hang

ends into a bow. Fill with goodies and hang on your Christmas tree.

- Condition clay before use by kneading in hands or fold and roll through pasta machine.
- Cornstarch, talcum powder, water and ArmorAll™ work as release agents: apply to draping forms to prevent sticking.
- Blends of more than two colors can be made. Instructions on the Kato Polyclay™ website.
- When sanding cured clay, use light circular motions. Close your eyes and feel your piece - sometimes you feel what your eyes don't see.
- Kato Nublade™ is not intended for and should not be used by children. It is extremely sharp and care should be taken at all times during use.
- These project instructions are presented in good faith. Kato Polyclay™ and Van Aken International offer no guarantee as to individual results.



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