

Materials List

Bisque Puzzler Molds: by ClayPuzzling.com
BP305 Pumpkin Molds (set 3)

Clay: by Continental Clay
Low-Fire Moist Red

Colors:

Brown Glaze
Green Glaze
Red Glaze
Yellow Glaze
Orange Glaze
Brown Antiquing
Green Stain
Orange Stain
Yellow Stain
Red Stain
Matte Spray Sealer

Brushes & Tools: by Royal & Langnickel Brush

998ST Metal Ferrule Duster
SG825-4 Soft Grip Bristle Fan
L400R-12 Regis Bristle Round
Drybrush
R2005 Synthetic Cleaning Sponge
RSET-POT7 Sculpting Tools

By ClayPuzzling.com

PPT1 Puzzling Press Tool
KI200 Industrial Extruder
LP101 Forma Leaf Rubber Pumpkin
Leaves (set 3 sizes)

Miscellaneous:

Washcloth
Newspaper
Silicone-Based Glue
Masking Tape

Contact the Artist

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Please Note: These pumpkins are much easier to paint if the leaves, stems and vines are attached after firing and painting. They can be attached with the use of any kind of clear-drying adhesive but silicone will allow the parts to be flexible, and less likely to break if bumped.

Place all parts, including the pumpkins on several layers of paper while drying. The paper will allow the parts to move freely as they shrink. If they cannot move freely they will stick to the surface and could crack and come apart.

Step 1 Dust out the interior of the Bisque Puzzler Mold removing any dust or debris in the cavity.

Step 2 Load the clay extruder with clay and attach the small hole attachment.

Step 3 Extrude strands of clay into each half of the mold cavity filling in as much as desired. Keep in mind that large openings between clay strands will make the item more fragile. Extrude extra coils of clay along the bottom area in the mold giving added strength to the clay creation. Do not go past the seam line where the molds will meet. Excessive clay between these parts will not allow the mold to fit together properly.

Step 4 Press a towel over the entire clay surface forcing the clay coils together.

Step 5 Create a coil of clay the same thickness of the coils used in the mold and begin attaching it along the seam line of one half of the mold. This continuous coil will go up and down (attaching to one half of the mold at this time) and will result in loops going above the seam line about an inch and then about an inch below the seam line attaching the extruded clay in the cavity. Do not make the loops going above the seam line more than an inch high. Excessively high loops will tend to break off in the next step. Continue with these loops all the way around the mold (on one half only) avoiding the opening where you reach inside.

Step 6 Gently bend the loop coils inward slightly so when the mold halves are placed together they will not get caught or crushed. Lift the half of the mold without the coil loops and turn it over slowly making certain the clay is stuck to the mold and will not fall out when completely turned over.



If the clay appears to want to fall out, drip a small amount of water between the clay and the mold in a few spots and press the clay.

Step 7 Place the mold halves together and wrap the Velcro strap around the mold, securing tightly.

Step 8 Stand the mold up and reach inside with the Puzzling Press Tool and press the coil loops of clay so they attach the clay on both mold parts.

Step 9 Remove the Velcro strap and gently pry the mold halves apart. Do not force the mold parts if they do not come apart easily. Sometimes the molds will need to sit for a while allowing the clay to firm up before the mold will come apart with ease. Forcing the mold open could cause the piece to split.

Step 10 Once you have one part of the mold removed the other half may need to sit in the other half until firm enough to stand on its own. Remove the other mold half when the piece can stand on its own.

Step 11 Use tools to remove any seam lines on the clay and smooth with a damp sponge or brush.

Step 12 Create stems for the pumpkins by making a coil of clay about an inch thick and about two inches long. Press your thumbs into the bottom of one end to open up the clay and hollow out the bottom. This part will attach to the top of the extruded pumpkin. Place it on top but do not attach.

Step 13 Flatten pieces of clay to about 1/8 inch thickness between your fingers or with the use of a



slab roller or rolling pin. Press the plastic leaf form into the clay and tear away excess clay around the edges. Turn the leaf (with clay still attached) so the clay leaf is facing up and the plastic leaf form is facing down. Bevel the edge of the leaf so it is thick in the middle and gets thin along the edges. (You do not want the leaf to have a square edge.)



Step 14 Starting at the stem of the leaf, bend the plastic leaf form back and gently pry the clay leaf away from the form. Remove the leaf and place it on paper with the stem of the leaf bent back so it will appear to grow out from the top of the pumpkin when attached.

Step 15 Extrude strands of clay for the vines and

twist and curl. Hold the vines up to the side of each pumpkin to figure out shape. Place the vines on paper to dry.

Step 16 Allow all pieces to dry thoroughly before firing to the appropriate temperature for the clay selected.

Step 17 Decorate with selected finish.



Decorate with non-fired finishes

Antique all parts with a brown antiquing color and wipe back so the color stays only in the crevices. Drybrush the pumpkins with orange and yellow. Drybrush the leaves with greens and add reds, yellows and oranges if you want to create fall colors. Drybrush vines with a couple shades of green.

Decorate with fired finishes

Apply one coat of brown glaze (like Stroke & Coat or Concepts) to all parts and wipe back with a damp sponge, leaving color only in the crevices. Use a sea wool sponge to apply yellow glaze randomly on the highlights of the pumpkins. Brush greens, reds, yellows and orange glazes wet into wet to create a variety of colors on the leaves. Stilt and fire all parts to cone 06.

Once all the parts are completed, glue into place and hold with masking tape until dry.



Create other exciting extruder-puzzled items like these with the use of Bisque Puzzler Molds.

