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Letters to the Editor

[print version](#)

[Editor's Letter](#) | [Letters to the Editor](#) |
[Beginners' Corner](#) | [Artist Interview:](#)
[James Lehman](#) | [The Tools We Use](#) |
[Video Review: Judith Skinner](#) |
[Holiday Wish List](#) | [Using Paper](#)
[Punches](#) | [Easy Greeting Cards](#) |
[Christmas Candy Canes](#) | [Elements](#)
[of Polymer Clay](#) | [Polymer Covered](#)
[Push-Pins](#) | [Issues in the Crafting](#)
[World](#) | [Email Us!](#) | [Home](#)

Hi!

I'm new to claying and wanted to tell you how much I'm loving this magazine! I've been looking all over the internet for information and have been amazed at the wealth of good, detailed info that is out there.

I found your zine just last week and proceeded to read all of the back issues. Wow! The on-line poly clay community has greatly impressed me with its generosity and availability.

I recently made my first cane and was so pleased with how it turned out. If I'd not read everything I could find about poly clay and caning before starting, I'm sure I would've decided it was too hard and given up. As it is, I'm well on my way to complete addiction!

I'm in Nebraska where there currently is no local guild. I've also noticed a sad lack of poly clay items at our local craft shows. That makes the information and camaraderie of the Internet community even more appreciated.

Thanks for producing such an awesome zine!

Diane in NE



GREAT ISSUE!

Absolutely LOVE Byrd's article, and Emma's is really nice too.

Annie



Dear Editor:

I have been searching for a connection for my niece, Lindsay who is 9 years old and a pc addict. She earns money only to run to the craft store to buy more to create an unbelievably creative world of critters. She is awesome and I have an art degree!

While other kids are playing soccer etc. she is in her own world of sculpting. This medium has changed her from a very shy, unsure child to a confident one willing to display her work as well as discuss her technique and I am so proud of her. I want to encourage her to continue and grow this beautiful talent.

She also throws on the wheel but polymer clay is her passion.

Thank you.

Susan



Dear Editor:

What a thrill it was to see the article about the gold and silver surround beads in the November Polyzine! I, too had picked up a couple packages of these shaped beads that I just KNEW would translate easily to polymer clay.

I don't believe my work so far in this arena is nearly as nice as those done by Marty in the article, but it is nice to be in such great company when it comes to brainstorming.

Great work!

Susan Schnoor



Dear Editor:

Re: Gold and Silver Surround Beads by Marty Woosley
November 2001 Issue

I just loved this idea. I went out and got some of the surround beads. I came up with an idea to pass onto your readers and Marty.

She mentioned in "Step Six: Note: The large heart shapes were the only ones I couldn't make a hole in."

I thought on this matter and came up with this solution:

The place I purchased the surround beads had some curved tube beads by the same company. These can be inserted onto the large heart surround beads prior to adding the poly clay.

Then cording or chain to be passed through or a wire can be inserted into the tube and loops made on the ends for attachment to cording or chain.

The tube beads are not curved enough for the hole alignment in the large heart beads and will need to be bent a little more. I place the tube bead around a thick round paint brush handle and with a little muscle bent it more, until it would navigate through the holes of the large heart surround.

Pin/wire can then be threaded through the tube and loops made at the ends. Note: make a loop at one end of the pin and then thread through the tube bead, insert the tube bead through the heart surround and then make your final loop. I made the mistake of making both loops prior to threading through the surround bead and then could not get it to go through due to the loop end being too big. Learn from my mistake. :)

If a fat enough tube bead is used, then you can leave the pin/wire out and thread the

cording or chain directly through the tube bead.

I also used this idea on the smaller and round surround beads without having to bend the tube beads, just gave a new dimension to the pieces.

Hope your readers can apply this to a wonderful idea from Marty Woosley on her article Gold and Silver Surround Beads in the November 2001 issue.

Kerrie LaFrenierre



Dear Editor:

I read your instructions for the Personalized Christmas Decoration. Could you use a copy of a picture and using the same instructions make a pin or pendant? Thank you for your help in this matter.

Feb

Dear Feb:

You certainly can use a copy of a picture with the same instructions. If you want to make a transfer, make sure you are using a laser jet, rather than an ink jet.

Deirdre



Dear Editor:

I am very new to this art, and I am having a hard time finding markers or pens that don't run when glossed. Could you give me some idea on what to look for.

I purchased a few Deco Pens which is what I was told by the salesperson would work and it ran when glossed.

Also, what is the best gloss to use for polyclay? I purchased the spray type. I did notice there is one for Sculpey but unfortunately the store only had one bottle and it was opened.

Any hints and ideas would be greatly appreciated.

Donna

Dear Donna:

Re: the deco pen: I've never used one, so I don't know anything about it. Readers?

Re: the gloss: Believe it or not, Future floor polish is a very good gloss for polymer clay. Also, Flecto Varathane is a good gloss, but you need to make sure you get the right kind. Check out [Glass Attic](#) to make sure you buy the right kind of Flecto.

Deirdre



Dear Editor:

I am just starting to sculpt in Fimo and was wondering if you have ever seen an all-Fimo smoking pipe?

I really enjoyed your rant on the safety of polymer clay.

Thanks again.
Grant

Dear Grant:

No, I've never seen an all-Fimo smoking pipe. Fimo burns at temperatures above over 300 degrees F, so pipe tobacco, when lit, will burn the clay and send toxic fumes into your lungs.

Fimo can certainly be used to decorate a pre-made pipe of heat-resistant material, but I

wouldn't recommend making an all-polymer clay pipe.

Deirdre

