

# Birdhouse Earrings by Helen Hughes

## Supply List:

- thick paper
- blue clay
- pasta machine
- cutting instrument
- ball stylus
- Kemper flower cutter
- needle tool
- wire loops
- earring findings



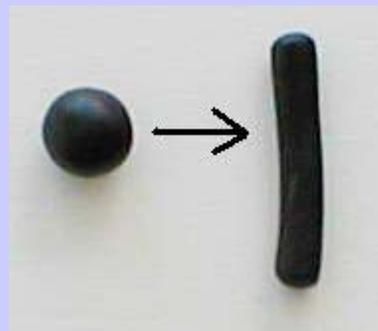
## STEP ONE:

Cut out a birdhouse shape from a piece of thick paper. Put your pattern on top of 2 layers (#1 on the pasta machine) of blue clay and cut out.



## STEP TWO:

Roll  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch ball of black clay into a  $1 \frac{1}{2}$  inch long snake.



## STEP THREE:

Position snake on top of the light blue birdhouse for the roof.



## STEP FOUR:

Roll one  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch ball of black clay. Place the ball on the birdhouse in the center; press a ball stylus in the center of the ball to make the birdhouse hole.



## STEP FIVE:

Roll six balls of green clay,  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch in diameter. Roll one of the balls into a very thin snake and position it to the right of the birdhouse hole to form a vine.



## STEP SIX:

Roll the remaining 5 balls of clay into leaf shapes. Position them on the birdhouse, three on the vine and two on the roof, as shown in the picture.



## STEP SEVEN:

Cut out three flower shapes from a sheet of white clay (#4 on the pasta machine), using a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch Kemper flower cutter. Position two of the flowers on the vine and one flower on the roof, between the leaves.



## STEP EIGHT:

Use a needle tool to define each of the flower petals. Pull the needle tool from the outside edge towards the center of the flower.

## STEP NINE:

Roll three very tiny balls of yellow clay and apply to the flower centers. Poke with a needle tool to texture the flower center.



## STEP TEN:

Create a second earring exactly like the first one, except, for the second earring, position the vine on the left side of the birdhouse hole.

## STEP ELEVEN:

Attach a wire loop to each earring if you want dangling earrings. Bake according to the manufacturer's instructions listed on your clay package.



After the earrings are cured, attach a wire earring finding to the wire loop, or, if you prefer, glue a post to the back of the earring for post earrings.

Altering the colors or shapes of the birdhouse and/or flowers can make variations. You can also add a bird to the birdhouse if you wish.

