

You can enjoy clay at home! Here are 5 different recipes to try using common household ingredients. Even with the current flour shortage, you can use baking soda, cornstarch, and a whole bunch of other ingredients that can be found in your cupboard. You can also try adding food colouring or making your own natural dyes:

Brown: Cocoa powder

Fushia: Beet juice

Orange: Paprika

Yellow: Tumeric

Blue: Boiled purple cabbage*

Green: Boiled parsley*

Pink: Boiled avocado skins*

*Add a tablespoon of vinegar to set the colour

Homemade Clay Recipes

Basic Play Clay

1 cups water

1/2 cup salt

Food coloring

2 1/2 cups flour

2 tablespoons cooking oil

1/2 teaspoon cream of tartar

Boil the water and slowly stir in the salt.

Add food colouring and mix.

On medium heat, add the cooking oil, cream of tartar, and flour, and stir until mixed and smooth.

Remove from heat.

On a smooth surface, knead the dough to achieve a consistent colour.

3 Ingredient Salt Clay

2 cups flour

1 cup salt

1 cup water

In a large mixing bowl, stir together the flour and salt.

Gradually add water while stirring and mixing to form a dough.

Form the dough into a ball and knead for approximately 5 minutes, adding more flour if the dough is too sticky or more water if it's too dry.

Model Magic Clay

2 cups baking soda
1 cup cornstarch
Food colouring (optional)
1 1/2 cups cold water
Corn starch (for sprinkling on the table)

Mix baking soda and corn starch together in a large pot.
Stir food colouring into water, if desired.
Stir cold water into baking soda mixture until smooth.
Heat mixture in pan over medium heat until it boils.
Continue stirring until the consistency is like mashed potatoes.
Pour the mixture in a heat-safe bowl and allow to cool.
Place a damp kitchen towel over the top while it cools to prevent it from hardening.
After it's cooled, knead the dough using corn starch to keep it from sticking to the table and to make it more pliable.

Cold Polymer (or Porcelain) Clay

1 cup corn flour
1 cup white glue
2 tablespoons baby or cooking oil
2 tablespoons of lemon juice (or vinegar)
1 teaspoon of white acrylic paint (this is optional and makes the clay whiter, and therefore closer to the look of porcelain)
Some lotion or Vaseline

In a non-stick pan, mix corn flour and white glue until you've formed a paste without any lumps.
Add lemon juice (or vinegar).
Add the baby or cooking oil.
Add the white acrylic paint at this stage if you wish.
Mix all ingredients well together.
On low to medium heat, start cooking the clay while stirring constantly. When the clay starts thickening and coming off the pan onto your spatula, it's ready for kneading.
Lightly rub a flat surface with lotion or Vaseline and knead the clay on this non-stick surface. Apply some lotion to your hands too so the clay doesn't stick to them.
Start kneading immediately and continue until the clay has a smooth and pliable consistency (this may take some time). The clay should form a teardrop shape when pulled apart.
Store in an airtight bag or container.

Paper Mache Clay

- 1 1/2 cups damp toilet paper or broken down newspaper
- 1 cup premixed drywall joint compound in a plastic tub (but not DAP brand joint compound)
- 3/4 cup Elmer's Glue-All or any PVA glue
- 1/2 to 1 cup white flour (adjustable)
- 2 tablespoons mineral oil (optional)

[Click here](#) to watch artist Jonni Good demonstrate the process.