

Space Clock Tutorial



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A new online store for polymer clay project supplies recently opened. After purchasing a few clock kits, I shared my results with one of the clay lists.

I got a really great reaction to the picture of my "Space Clock". This Space Clock was what I like to call a "happy accident"; I was originally preparing the tile base for a top layer of Mokume Gane.

The clock is a really easy project to do, perfect for a beginner who had not yet developed any caning skills. So I decided to share it with the rest of the Polymer Clay Community.

Happy Clock Making!

Materials:

- clock kit (mine came from <http://www.polymerclayprojects.com>)
- black CLS or TLS tinted black
- finger cot or latex glove
- Pearl-Ex powders in your choice of colors (I used interference blue, interference gold, Aztec gold, pearl white, silver, sparkle gold, and sparkle copper)
- baking sheet lined with parchment, wax paper, or computer paper



Place tile from clock kit on to parchment lined baking tray.



Clean tile with alcohol pad. Let alcohol evaporate.



Squeeze black CLS over tile.



Put on finger cot or glove. Spread CLS with your finger.



Continue adding CLS and spreading it with your finger.

You want a fairly thick coat of TLS (enough so that the base tile does not show through at all.) Be sure to spread the CLS all the way to the edges of the tile.



Once the tile has been covered with CLS, let it sit for 5-10 minutes, to allow time for the CLS to level itself out. Squeeze black TLS on any bare spots, if necessary.



Get out the Pearl-Ex Powders. If using unopened bottles, carefully remove the cap, but DO NOT remove the styrofoam seal. Instead, use a toothpick to poke a series of small holes through the seal, turning the bottle into a "shaker".



Shake Pearl-Ex randomly over tile. Switch colors, and sprinkle on some more. Continue sprinkling Pearl-Ex over CLS until you have a pleasing, star-like pattern.

(If using bottles with the seals already removed, you may dip a small paintbrush into the pearl-ex, then flick it onto the TLS to achieve the same effect.)



When the tile is covered to your satisfaction, let it sit for about 10-15 minutes. Make any needed "corrections" by squeezing on more black TLS, BEFORE firing the tile.



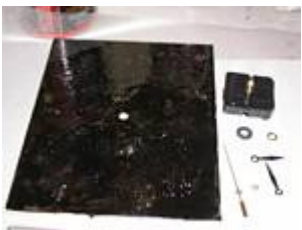
Place the baking tray in a preheated 275 degree oven. Bake for 30 minutes. Let cool.



Apply a coat of Future Floor Wax to the cooled base. Let the Future dry for approximately 45 minutes, then place the clay in a 200 degree oven for approximately 10 minutes to heat set the Future.

Let cool. Repeat at least twice, so that you have a minimum of three coats of Future on the clock.

(Note: If there are "bare spots", you may sprinkle some more Pearl-Ex over the wet Future. We recommend making any "corrections" IMMEDIATELY after applying the last coat of Future.)



Gather clock parts. Assemble according to directions contained in the clock kit.



The finished clock



Two wall clocks (above)



Two desk clocks (above)