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Your ClayAround Newsletter

ClayAround



Recently Fiona Abel-Smith has started creating video tutorials and [one in particular](#) caught my eye. Above left is a picture of the egg she demonstrated – you, too, could make that! Co-incidentally, Roz Hill (you can find her on Facebook) brought to our clayday, to show us, an egg she had covered (top right) so inevitably I started looking for other examples. There are so many! Look at these beauties by [Carol Simmons](#).

[Back to basics](#) for here is how to cover an egg before you decorate it and [here](#) is how to cover the same egg with a very simple design. And [Here](#) are more basic hints from a very old tutorial by Kellie Robinson.

So then one looks for ideas to motivate you. If you chase through the pictures by [Mandarin Moon](#) you will find lots of ideas for covering eggs and more ideas from Emily squires Levine [here](#). Here is yet [another smart idea](#) and another using [Faux Abalone](#).

This 'open work' egg is not strictly a covered egg but is an original idea in picture tutorial form And finally a bit of fun, but still a clay challenge is this '[EGG-Static](#)' egg is part of a workshop by Dawn Schiller.



We have new exciting and interesting stock.

In particular I have replenished the Kor rollers, but also have a small stock of his [new panes](#). (see the bottom of the picture above) They are stamps (it might be worth putting a handle on the back). It will be interesting to find out what you think of them and whether I should choose more designs.

I have also just acquired a stock of [heat guns](#) as I am aware that so many people use them. They are ideal for setting clay before curing to help avoid distortion on delicate pieces; they can be used to set a coating of liquid clay or as a quick set when joining two pieces with liquid clay. I could go on....a very useful tool to have in your collection.

We now have single sheets of most grades of [wet and dry sandpaper](#)— the grades were chosen at the recommendation of different well known tutors in the community

I was at the craft trade show last week searching for new possibilities.

Those of you who follow me on Facebook (Clayaround is the page) will know I have been experimenting with crackle paste - I will find a useful make soon! I am also investigating other options. I have, for instance,



Angela Pyke sent me this (I couldn't word it better):

"I started claying in 2010 when I fell in love with caneing and spent the first two years totally engrossed in Donna Kato's book and only came out of my studio for food! Since then I've fallen in love with texture, alcohol inks and my latest addiction silk screens! I absolutely adore vibrant colours in nature, but I particularly love blues and greens. For years I've made beads which I sell on my website but more recently my journey has taken a different corner. Sometimes I can't bear to cut up a beautiful silk-screened sheet of clay. So now I either frame them, make bookmarks or make them into decorative bowls." Angela was featured recently on Polymer clay Daily with her bowls made from Helen Breil's tutorial. She can be found on [Instagram](#). and [Facebook](#).....and has a [website](#). We are proud to be able to show you her work.

Our next clayday is on 7th April - Details and directions [here](#) as usual. But do let me know if you are coming!

We are off to [Polymania](#). The closing date for advance orders is

just acquired just one colour of Inka Textil which is a metallic fabric paint. I am advised that it is ideal for use on Polymer clay because it is flexible. I will experiment to discover if this is so. Experimenting is fun!

The closing date for advance orders is 11th March. That is orders that you will put through the shopping cart but that I will bring with me to the workshops for you to save you postage. I will not be able to add any more after that, but will of course have a full stock of most things with me at the workshop.

'Creativity is a wild mind and a disciplined eye.

Dorothy Parkr

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