How to Make Flexible Clay

1. Rub Slik on your worksurface and your hands to keep the clay from sticking. You will need to work fast before the clay dries. Use a very light coating.

2. Roll clay into a thin layer. For every 25 grams, put 6 to 8 drops of glycerin on the slab and spread it evenly over the clay. Roll the clay slab up and fold it in half again. Put this lump on your worksurface and put the Ziplock bag over it. Roll the clay down into a very thin layer.

3. Pull up the plastic bag. Some of the clay may stick to the bag. Scrape that off with one of your scrapers. Scrape up the clay from the worksurface and then use your other scrapper to scrape the clay off the first scrapper. Put this lump of clay back on the worksurface, put the Ziplock bag on the clay and roll it down again into a thin layer.

4. Scrape this up like before, but this time, put some more balm on the worksurface. Don’t worry if there is clay residue left on the worksurface, just put the balm right over it and scrape that up as well and add it to the ball. Get all the bits into a lump and roll it a few times in your hands to solidify the mass.

5. Repeat this process, re-greasing your worksurface and your hands between every other rolling, and also from this point on, you want to roll the clay in a ball in your hands to help solidify it after each rolling.

6. Feel the texture of the clay with your fingers. If it feels a little grainy, then roll again under the bag and scrape the clay back up.

7. After about 5 or 6 rollings and scrapings, the clay should regain its original consistency and should be able to be peeled up from the worksurface cleanly. At this point, it will look and feel exactly as it came out of the package. The moist flexible clay can be kept tightly wrapped in cling wrap inside a clay hydrator for later use or can be dried for immediate use. After texturing or extruding, allow the clay to dry before working with it, which takes about 10 minutes. The clay will be completely flexible after it has dried. The dried flexible clay can be folded, woven, knotted or braided, used as abezel or any other way you can imagine.

We hope you enjoy this fabulous technique and the design options it opens up!