



Let's Get Building!

Below you will find the steps to building your new bowl or bowl[s]. Find a comfortable environment, put on your favourite playlist, pour your favourite drink, and let's get started!

For in-depth instruction we recommend watching the Full Tutorial Video:

<https://sketchartworkshop.com/tutorials/>.

If you have questions anytime please
Text or Call: 519-790-8017

SUMMARY

Project Difficulty: All-Levels

Duration: 1-3 Hours

Materials Included: Clay, Carving Knife, Small Paint Brush, Scoring Tool, Sponge, Parchment Paper, Paint (If Ordered).

Additional Materials Needed: You will need a hand towel or paper towel, and small bowl of water.

Important Notes:

- After handling clay **do not** wash your hands or towels in the sink. You do not want to get any clay into your drain and pipes. Get a bowl of water and use that to wash your hands and tools. When finished, you can dump that water outside. No worries, our clay is raw from the earth and 100% environmentally friendly.
- If you mess up at any of the steps below, no problem! Just "re-wedge" your clay and start over... don't worry, you will learn what "wedging" means very soon ;)
- Remember your bowl(s) will not look like a perfect bowl made on a pottery wheel or from the store. Handmade items have a beautiful "Perfectly Un-Perfect" vibe too it. The chunky/rough handmade look is what you want...it's made with love. So go into this project with no pressure!

STEP 1: Wedge your Clay

Set-Up: Place down your piece of parchment table. This will be your clay work area. You will want your parchment paper to be able to move/spin, so no need to tape it down.

Tools: Parchment Paper

Adding your Touch: Here you can decide the size of your first bowl.

Tip: If it's your first time, I recommend starting small. Also - remember when firing your item in the kiln it will shrink 15%-20%.

image 1



image 2



STEP 1.1

From your chunk of clay, break off a chunk of clay you will use for your bowl. Make sure to put the rest of your clay back in the zip-lock bag and seal it up!

STEP 1.2

Now start "wedging" your clay. You want to slap, hit, and throw your clay between your hands for 2-3 minutes. The purpose is to get the air pockets out and make your clay one solid piece.

STEP 2: Make a Ball

Set-Up: No Additional.

Tools: Parchment Paper.

Adding your Touch: Go with your gut, make the size that feels best and just trust in it. It's about the process and having fun. Keep it light and relaxing.

Tip: The Bigger the base the wider the bowl, if skinny and tall as you pinch it will be tall and skinny too.

image 3



image 4



STEP 2.1

Now that your clay is wedged and ready to go make a ball shape and place it down on your parchment paper. If your piece of parchment is too big, you can cut it. You just need a small "6x6" piece.

STEP 2.2

Give the ball a light tap with your palm to slightly smush it into the table. You will want it to be a oval shape now.

STEP 3: Start Shaping your Bowl

Set-Up: No Additional.

Tools: Parchment Paper

Adding your Touch: Make whatever shape you want, could be heart or square, be free. IF you want to make a flower pot; add a drainage hole to the bottom.

Tip: Get creative! Read or Watch the "Clay 101 instructions" to learn how to attach clay pieces. You can build legs, add little figurings,...Skys the limit!

image 5



image 6



STEP 3.1

We will start by making a hole with your thumb in the centre of the clay. DO NOT go all the way to bottom. You will want to leave enough clay at bottom to make the bottom of your bowl strong.

STEP 3.2

Now, we start forming the bowl. There is a reason these bowls are often called "pinch pots". You use your thumb and fingers to pinch around the bowl bringing the clay up. Repeat the "pinch and turn" process as you form your bowl.

image 7



image 8



STEP 3.3

As your building your bowl stop and fix any cracks and give the clay a little love as you go. To fix cracks dip your finger in water and rub out the crack. Just a very small amount of water!

STEP 3.4

Build out the inside of your bowl as well. Use your thumbs to create the inside bowl shape you'd like. Make sure to smooth out any cracks around your bowl and the bottom.

STEP 4: Dry and Optional Carving

Set-Up: None.

Tools: Plastic Bag (optional), Carving Knife (optional)

Tip: If you have a bigger bowl, it may droop. No problem, just place something against it to hold it until it dries. You can cover your bowl with a plastic bag to let it dry slowly. This will reduce chances of any small cracks in the handle.

Next Step Instructions: IF your painting @ sketch/urban surf - we got it from here! Just let your host know you're done. IF your at home and want to carve on your bowl, you will need to wait " # hours" until it is leather hard. To carve into your bowl be gentle and use the carving tool. Once you're completely done, let your item dry to become what we call "bone dry". It's in its most delicate state right now. Pack it up and return to us. If you are painting follow the instructions in Step 5 and/or the Painting Video @ <https://sketchartworkshop.com/tutorials/>

STEP 5: Painting (If Chosen)

Set-Up: Now that your clay is completely dry lets set-up again. Spread out your paint, brushes, a paper towel or rag, and fill up a small bowl with water. You can use a plate, piece of cardboard, or really any flat surface too paint on. This paint is extremely washable and drain safe :). Get comfortable and let's paint

Important Note: **DO NOT** paint the bottom of your mug - leave it natural clay. If painted it will get stuck to the kiln when firing. ONLY use paint provided. It's special for pottery and firing in the kiln.

Tools: Placemat (optional), Paint, Paint Brushes, Paper Towel or Rag, Small Bowl of Water.

Adding your Touch: Get totally creative, have fun and let loose.

Tips:

- Use 2-3 coats of paint on areas you want it to be solid or less coats for depth.
- I always leave the inside its natural colour as it's hard to get even paint in
- You can leave the natural clay and just add details like flowers, abstract shapes, geometric lines...etc. Try patterns using dots, lines, dashes to create designs.
- You can try adding a bit of water to your brush as I did in the video and give your paint a water colour effect.

STEP 6: OPTIONAL BONUS! Extra Clay

Set-Up: Optional "Reset"... Wipe down your placemat. You can use a very very little bit of water, but make sure your placemat is completely dry before using again. Make sure hands are dry before handling your clay again.

Tools: Optional

Adding your Touch: Hit up Pinterest for "ceramics hand building" inspiration!!

Tip: I like making cute little mushrooms. Sometimes I add a pinhole for an incense stick.

Instructions: Have fun, be free, make anything you want! Just remember if attaching any pieces together you will need to score them and dab a bit of slip water like you did with your handle. Besides that, no rules or judgement here ;)

