

Please post where ClayLinks® Prints are made.

5-Step ClayLinks® Print-Making System

1. Prepare Clay

- Have 1-4 ClayLinks® Kits available (*See chart)
- Knead clay until softened
- Roll patty into ball(s)



2. Make Impression

- Place clay on hard, clean surface and flatten into a patty. Use our Patty Pads and Molds, if available, to smooth and shape clay (*See chart)
- Position hand and firmly push center, and then each finger, into the clay



3. Add Decorations

- Press decorations into clay
- Add desired words, names or dates
- Poke hole(s) through clay, if planning to add decorative ribbon

TIP!! Decorations must be able to withstand baking temperatures!



Size of print	# of kits	ClayLinks® Mold we recommend
Babies	1	Maroon Circle/Heart
Children	2	Green Circle/Heart
Adult Female	3	Yellow Oval
Adult Male	4	Blue Oval

*Larger prints require more than one clay kit



4. Bake Print

- Preheat conventional or toaster oven to 275°F/135°C
- Bake in a baking pan for 20 minutes
- Promptly remove from oven
- Once cool, use a spatula to gently “pop” loose from baking pan



5. Finish for Presentation

- Thread ribbon through pre-made holes to tie a bow or create a loop for hanging
- Complete the “send home” information sheet (ClayLinks® Kits main insert)
- Present to family



More Questions? See reverse side for more details about making ClayLinks® Prints

The Do's and Don'ts of Making a ClayLinks® Print

Please Do

Before the print is made:

- Do read all directions included in the kit.
- Do clean hands and any surfaces you will be using to make the print, because the modeling compound attracts dust, dirt and ink.
- Do knead the clay patty before making the print because it is important to evenly distribute the compounds in the clay. Kneading activates strong bonds that once baked will help ensure the long life of the print.
- Do use our Patty Pad and Molds to get a perfectly shaped patty.
- Do position the center of the palm on the lower half of the patty rather than the center to allow room for decorations. Press firmly. Then apply pressure to each finger individually before lifting up the hand.

After the print is made:

- Do follow the baking and decorating instructions.
- Do decorate the print with stamps, charms or “push-in” decorations before baking!
- Do make sure your decorations will withstand the baking temperature.
- Do bake the print for 20 minutes at 275°F (135°C) on a clean, ungreased baking pan. If you need to create a clean surface free of baking residue, use parchment paper on top of your baking dish. Be aware that the print will slide around on the parchment paper. Use caution when removing from the oven.
- Do allow the print to fully cool after baking before removing it from the baking pan.
- Do use 100% water-based acrylic paints OR glazes made for polymer clays to decorate the print after baking.

TAKE PRECAUTIONS TO ENSURE SAFETY!

ClayLinks® modeling compound is non-toxic. Adults should assist children when decorating prints; oily residue from unbaked clay may transfer to paper, clothing and furniture. Always bake in a oven in a well ventilated area.

Please Don't

Before the print is made:

- Don't skip kneading the clay. This modeling compound, though it may be soft, needs to be kneaded to properly distribute the compounds. If it is not kneaded, it has a tendency to be very brittle and break easily after being baked.
- Don't soften the clay in a microwave or anything that heats up warmer than body temperature as it will start to bake the clay prematurely and actually make it harder to work with.

After the print is made:

- Don't paint or glaze the print before it is baked.
- Don't bake your print in the microwave, it will bake unevenly, often burns and creates a more fragile keepsake.
- Don't wait for the print to air dry—it never will and the clay will start to crack over time if not baked. Bake prints within 30 days of making the impression.
- Don't both paint AND glaze. Choose one or the other, doing both may cause the coating to not dry properly.
- Don't spray paint or use any aerosol paints, glazes or sealants on the print. The coating won't dry and will remain tacky to the touch.
- Don't plan to display the print outside, especially if it is the only print! We cannot guarantee the print will withstand fluctuations in temperature and exposure to the elements over any period of time.
- Don't forget to complete the “send home” information sheet and sticker from the ClayLinks® Kits packaging so families know if their print is baked or not.

More Questions? See our FAQ's and watch our Instructional Video in the About ClayLinks® Prints section of our website www.caringwisdom.com



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