

Please post where ClayPaws® Prints are made.

How to Make a ClayPaws® Print

5 Finish for Presentation

- If baked, thread ribbon through pre-made holes to tie a bow or create a loop for hanging
- Mark “baked” or “not baked” on storage bag sticker
- Complete the “send home” information sheet (ClayPaws® Kits main insert)
- Include home baking instructions, if needed
- Present to family



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
- Or, send print home with families to bake, but be sure to also send home baking instruction sheet and mark that the print is “not baked” on sticker



1 Prepare Clay

- Have 1-3 ClayPaws® Kits available (*See chart)
- Knead clay until soft
- Roll into ball(s)



*Larger prints require more than one clay kit

Size of print	# of kits	ClayPaws® Mold we recommend
Cats and small dogs	1	Maroon Circle /Heart
Large dogs	2	Green Circle /Heart
Horses	3	Yellow Oval

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 paw and firmly push center paw pad, and then each toe pad and nail, into the clay



5-Step ClayPaws® Print-Making System

3 Add Decorations

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



TIP!! Decorations must withstand baking temperatures

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

The Do's and Don'ts of Making a ClayPaws[®] Print

Please Do

Before the print is made:

- Do read all directions included in the kit.
- Do clean hands, paws and any surfaces you'll be using to make the print, because the modeling compound attracts fur, dirt and ink.
- Do knead the clay patty before making the print because it is important to evenly distribute the compounds in the clay. This activates strong bonds when baked and ensures the long life of the print.
- Do use our Patty Pad and Molds to get a perfectly shaped patty.
- Do position the pad of the paw on the lower half of the patty rather than the center to allow room for decorations. Press firmly. Then apply pressure to each toe pad and nail individually without lifting the paw up.

After the print is made:

- Do follow the baking and decorating instructions.
- Do decorate the print before baking with stamps, charms or “push-in decorations” that 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 but be aware that once the print is baked, it 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 that are made for polymer clays to decorate the print after baking.

Please Don't

Before the print is made:

- Don't skip the kneading step of making the print if you are the one making the impression. 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 a 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 that 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 ClayPaws[®] Kits packaging so families know if their print is baked or not.

Take precautions to ensure safety: ClayPaws[®] modeling compound is non-toxic. Some animals may resist print-making and may attempt to scratch or bite; adults should assist children when making /decorating prints; oily residue from unbaked clay may transfer to paper, clothing and furniture. Always bake in a well ventilated oven and area.

More Questions? See our FAQ's and watch our Instructional Video in the About ClayPaws[®] Prints section of our website at www.veterinarywisdom.com

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