

Mont Marte

Create a dog sculpture in air drying clay



I can create

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Materials List

The materials for this lesson can be found at a Gold or above Art Centre.

Go to www.montmarte.net to find your nearest stockist.

MMSP0007 Mont Marte Air Hardening Modelling Clay 2kg

MMSP0026 Mont Marte Pottery Banding Wheel

MAMD0002 Mont Marte Acrylic Medium Matt 135ml

MACR0004 Mont Marte Hobby knife Set

CMRD0020 Mont Marte Round Canvas 20cm

MMSP0022 Mont Marte Plaster of Paris 1 kg

MMSP0002 Mont Marte Clay Tool Set 11 pce

MMSP0003 Mont Marte Mini Modelling Tools 10 pce

MCG0109 Mont Marte Taklon Bright #16

Also Required:

Water, paper towels, Scissors, 30mm Phillips Head Screws, 75mm Phillips Head Screws, Tie Wire, Screw Driver, Pliers.

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1. Preparing the base

In this lesson we'll be using a round palette for the base of our puppy. We need to fill the rear of a 20cm round canvas with plaster.

As a precaution against the plaster moving once it is set inside the canvas, I have screwed 4 small phillips head screws into the inside of the round frame.

To mix your plaster pour out 300mls of water into a bucket and add 150 grams of Plaster of Paris and stir it until the plaster is a smooth consistency, free of lumps and with the viscosity of pouring cream.

Turn the canvas upside down and place it on a flat surface. Pour in the plaster until it is level with the round frame and let it dry. Don't move it until it hardens.

Next screw 3 x70mm screws into the surface in a triangle shape. They should be about 75mms apart. Bind the screws together with tie wire. The screws will help the clay stay attached to the base and the wire will reinforce the sculpture.

Tip

Keep the sculpture damp by spraying it with a water spray bottle from time to time. Keep spinning the sculpture to view it from every angle.

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2. Creating the pillow

Our puppy is sleeping on a pillow so we need to build that first. Pack a small square onto the base and then build the bottom half of the pillow first. Pack the clay tightly around the screws and reinforcing wire. Once the bottom part of the pillow is completed start adding clay to the second top part of the pillow.

Remember the shape of a pillow and the gentle convex shape of the top and bottom.

Once the two halves of the pillow have been created, roll a thin roll of clay and lay it around the middle of the pillow. This will suggest that the pillow has piping.



If you would like to try this project it is very important to watch the accompanying video to familiarise yourself with the steps as it is very hard to clarify some of them with words. Always wrap the work in cling film between sculpting sessions so that it won't dry out.

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3. Creating the puppy

The puppy can be created in a number of steps.

For this stage it's a good idea to refer to the accompanying video and also the views on the last page of the PDF.

These are the steps to take:

- 1) Create the form of the body.
- 2) Fashion the rear leg and tail. Remember the tail and bottom part of the leg tucked under the puppy.
- 3) Create the head shape. The top part of the head is quite round and the muzzle is a triangular shape. Create a divit down the center of the head to suggest the 2 parts of the orbital areas of the head.
- 4) Carve out the muzzle.
- 4) Thin out the neck area behind the head
- 5) Add the shoulder blade.

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4. Detailing

Our puppy is pretty much complete. It just needs to be detailed by taking the following steps:

- 1) Use the needle tool to cut the nose shape and nostrils.
- 2) Cut the slits for the eyes.
- 3) Create the ears from triangles of clay and apply them to the head.
- 4) Smooth out the entire sculpture with a damp brush.

