



## Clay Pen Pot

### What you need:

- Clay – air dry or oven bake (plasticine will also work, but it won't set)
- An empty 400g tin can with the label removed
- Rolling pin
- Skewer
- Chopping board
- Newspaper or table covering
- Towel
- Water

### Instructions:

1. Push down your clay to flatten it. Bang it with your rolling pin a couple of times to help – this makes it easier to roll.
2. Roll out the clay, using lots of pressure to stretch it. Roll it out until it is large enough to cover your can with some extra room on all sides.
3. Lie your can at one end of the rolled-out clay. Gently press the end of the clay onto the can to adhere it, then roll the can along the strip of clay.
4. Your can is now covered in clay!
5. Push in against the top and bottom of the can to make a dent, and then unroll the clay. Your strip of clay should have two indented lines where the top and bottom of your can were.
6. Use your skewer to cut the excess clay off one centimetre above the line on each side – this will allow you to attach the clay to the can. Hold on to the discarded clay, you will need it later!
7. Roll the clay around the can again and press the edges together. Fold the extra clay over the top of the can. This will give a smooth finish and cover any sharp edges.
8. If you have any gaps, use your leftover clay to mend the holes and press the edges together.
9. Fold the extra clay over the bottom of the can, and press it down to make sure that your pot stands straight.
10. Use your scrap clay to decorate! Push it all into a ball to make it workable, and then use it to decorate your can. Will you make a face? Create a flower garden?
11. To attach your decorative pieces, use your skewer to roughen the back of the piece (where it will join to the pot), then dip your finger in water and wet the back. Place firmly onto the pot.
12. Dry or bake as per the directions on your clay packet.
13. You can paint your pot if you want to add extra colour, or leave it as it is.
14. Add your pens!

