

2.

Clay 101

How to cut clay

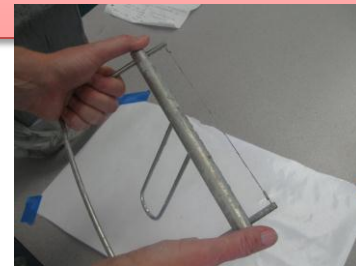
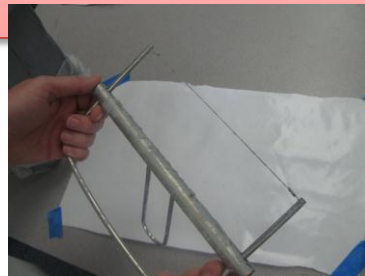
- ❖ Cut clay in the class. If the work room is noisy it distracts the students.
- ❖ Clay comes in white or red. The lesson plan will indicate which is needed.
- ❖ A block of clay weighs 25lbs and is generally enough for 10 slabs or approx. 16 small “lumps”.
- ❖ Bring extra to the class as back up.
- ❖ Enlist help to carry you clay and supplies.
- ❖ Any excess, uncut clay can be returned to the bag and the bag needs to be resealed or the clay will dry out.
- ❖ Any left over scraps of clay simply get thrown in the trash outside the class.
- ❖ **DO NOT RETURN ANY SCRAPS OF CLAY TO THE WORKROOM**



Cutting slab



- A vast majority of ECC's clay projects are made from a basic slab.
- The lesson plans tell you how deep to cut each slab. If it isn't clear then cut a piece, roll it out (5. clay 101 rolling slab) and see if it is the right size and cut the rest accordingly.
- Tear of enough freezer paper so you have 1 per child. You only need a piece approx. 12" long. **DO NOT PLAN ON COVERING THE WHOLE DESK!**
- Measure the depth of clay you want on the cutting tool. Pull the cutting tool across the block and place your piece of slab on the first piece of freezer paper.
- Keep cutting pieces of slab, sandwiching them between freezer paper as you go.
- If cutting ahead of time, wrap each piece in Saran wrap. **Do not place cut pieces back in the bag without seran wrap (we have some) between each piece as they will fuse together, creating air bubbles when separated.**



Cutting clay for pinch pots/characters/animals etc.

- The kids will need a piece of clay about the size of a large egg.
- Measure approx. 3" on the clay cutter and slice a piece of clay.
- Gently mark the clay into 9 pieces and then cut as per photos being careful not to pull the cutter back on itself.
- Repeat until you have enough for each child.
- Again, wrap in saran if you are prepping ahead of time.

