

Chihuly Inspired Outdoor Ornaments

By Lynne Suprock

Materials Used:

1. Aves Apoxie Sculpt, white color
2. Non stick mat
3. Gloves
4. Styrofoam balls large, medium and small sized
5. Plastic straw
6. Scissors
7. S hooks and area to suspend balls to dry
8. Plastic wrap
9. Alcohol inks, variety of colors
10. Can of compressed air
11. Resin, 2 part epoxy
12. Rubbing alcohol

Technique

1. Mix Aves Apoxie Sculpt (white), Part A and B, in equal parts, according to package directions. Make sure both color shades blend to one.
2. Once mixed, flatten the clay into a thin pizza shape, using your fingers. Use a non stick mat, if you must lay the clay down to do this part.
3. Begin to drape the clay onto the Styrofoam ball in segments
4. Smooth seams of all the pieces with fingers, as you work
5. Form a small noodle with some clay, twist slightly and place it atop the ball.
6. Insert a plastic straw to hold the shape while drying
7. Let dry at least 8 hours or overnight
8. Remove the straw
9. Dilute several drops of Alcohol Ink (one color) with rubbing alcohol in a small cup, and dab it onto the clay ball. Use one color more than one color on different areas of the ball. This will be your background.
10. Add single drops of Alcohol Inks and spray with bursts of air to create brighter color with direction
11. Allow the inks to dry completely
12. Mix equal parts of A and B of a two part, Clear Transparent Epoxy Resin.
13. Apply over the entire ball.

14. Hang on a nonstick coated hanger (shape a wire into an “S” shape and wrap with plastic wrap)
15. Check ball twice for dripping resin in the first hour, and wipe away carefully with a gloved hand or dab with plastic wrap. Check twice in the second hour of drying, as well.

Tips

- Wear non latex gloves when mixing Apoxie Sculpt, Part A and Part B. It is sticky when mixed
- Working time once mixed is 1 to 3 hours.
- Use a clean tool to remove clay from each of the Part A and Part B containers. Cross contaminating Part A with Part B will cause the clay to harden in the tub.
- Apoxie Sculpt comes in different colors. Experiment.
- Use gloved hands, rather than a brush, to apply the resin coat.

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