



### Supplies:

Character Pen Push Mold  
Various colors of Polymer clay  
X-acto knife  
Parchment paper or ceramic tile to place clay on  
Paper Towels  
Faux Jewelry Jewels  
Paper plate for painting  
Paper cup for painting  
Acrylic paints in the following colors:  
Black, White, Red,  
Brown, Blue  
Small liner paintbrush  
Papermate Flexgrip Ultra Ball Point Pens  
Garlic press or piece of screen

### Preparing the Pens:

The reason for the use of the Papermate Flexgrip Ultra Ball Point Pens is because you can unscrew the bottom silver part of the pen and remove the ink cartridge, which you will need to do to bake the polymer clay onto the empty pen cartridge. You will be working with two pens; one you will be making into a character pen and one will be used as a rolling pin.

### Using the Mold:

1. Roll up a piece of the flesh-colored polymer clay into a smooth ball, about the size of the push mold cavity, and roll one end of the ball into a cone shape. Put the tip of the cone into the nose cavity of the push mold. Holding the clay as steady as possible, push the clay straight into the push mold and fill to capacity. Using another piece of flesh colored clay, push the clay onto the clay inside the push mold. This will act as a handle and help you to remove the character face. Using a toothpick, poke nostrils into the nose area. Put aside your character face.

### Covering the Pen Cartridge:

Following the pictures included in the pattern, roll out a very thin (1/16 inch) pancake of clay, using your second pen as a rolling pin to smooth out the clay, and cover the outside of the pen. You can use a marble effect, or stripes; be creative.

For purposes of explanation, I will explain the project using the Santa above. Roll out the 1/16th inch pancake of red clay. Using your x-acto knife, and your pen to measure, cut a rectangle approximately 1.5 inches wide and the length of the pen barrel. Wrap the red clay rectangle

around the pen barrel and cut away any excess clay. If you are “short” in any area, you can piece a little clay onto the area and smooth with your fingers.

#### Creating the Pen Head:

Attach the Santa Face to the top of the pen. It will stick to the red clay already on the pen. Roll up another small flesh-colored clay ball, about ½ inch in diameter. Push your finger into one side of the ball, creating a conclave indentation. Put this ball onto the back of the pen to create a “back of Santa’s head”. Using your smoothing tooth or your finger, you can smooth the sides of the head to make sure it is attached firmly. Remember the heads will be covered with hair and sometimes with hats.

#### Making the Hat:

For Santa’s hat, as well as the Wizard’s hat, you take a 2 inch diameter ball of red clay and roll into a cone shape. Poke and smooth a hole at the thick side of the cone to create an opening to fit the head into. Smooth the edges/rim of the hat and make sure it is an even rim.

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**SAFETY INSTRUCTION: Any tool, plate, dish, spoon, or other tool used with polymer clay can no longer be use in food service. For example: If you use the garlic press in the next step, you can no longer use it to press garlic. It will become part of your clay tool set. If you use a dish or pan to bake the clay figures in, they are no longer suitable for food service.**

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Using the garlic press or a piece of screening, take white clay and push it through the press or the screen. It will produce the tiny, thin strands of hair. Attach one clump of white clay “hair” at a time to create the hair and beard. To create the mustache, you will need to remove one strand and lay between the nose and mouth.

To make the “fur” on Santa’s hat, you will put the white clay through the press or screen and only use short clumps of “hair”. Attach them to the rim of the hat and the tip of the hat until you have a nice layer of “fur”.

You can take two tiny brown peas of clay or white peas of clay and make small thin circles and attach as buttons. Poke two sew marks through the buttons.

You will be baking the hat and pen separately and gluing them when completed.

#### To Make the Pen Base/Holder:

Roll up any left over clay you have. This is a good project for scraps of clay. Roll up a ball about the weight and size of the pen’s head, and even slightly bigger. Then roll out another 1/16th inch of red clay and cover the base. Smooth the clay over the edges and smooth with your fingers. Take your spare rolling pin pen, and push the pen into the top of the base/holder and wiggle just a little bit and remove the pen. You have now made the cavity that will hold the pen when completed.

Roll out a long white coil of clay and another long red coil of clay. Twist together to get the “candy cane” effect. Wrap around the bottom of the pen base/holder and cut off any excess. You can add a small candy cane to the front of the base, using the same twisting method.

Bake the polymer clay according to the polymer clay manufacturer’s baking instructions. Be careful to properly time your baking. Set a timer!

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**SAFETY PRECAUTION: Children should be supervised while baking polymer clay. Although it is a very safe product, if you over bake polymer clay, it will release toxic fumes. It is critically important that you set a timer when baking polymer clay so you do not over-bake and release the toxic fumes.**

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#### Painting the Character Pen Faces:

1. Paint the eyes white. Paint iris circles in blue or brown. Paint tiny black pupils and add a pin dot of white paint at 2:00 on the outside circumference of the pupil to finish the eyes.
2. Paint thin wispy lines to create eyebrows.
3. Add red and brown and a little white. Mix until you have a flesh-colored brownish pink. You don’t want a “lipstick” pink, you want a “lip color” pink. It helps to water down this mixture a little bit. It goes one more like a lip color rather than a lip stick.
4. Once the faces are dry, the pens are completed.

#### Other Tips on the Other Characters:

For the Pink Fairy pen, you can bake the doll “bald” and when cool, glue a little acrylic doll hair instead of making the hair out of clay. (Do not bake the acrylic hair) Her ears are made by taking tiny balls of flesh colored clay and shaping them into fairy ears. They are baked separately and glued on after the hair is applied.

For the Nun and Mary Pen, the veils are made by rolling out large rectangles of 1/16th clay and cutting a straight edge on one long end. Drape the rectangle onto the top of the head and create folds and cut off the bottom into a pleasing shape.

For the St. Patrick’s Day pen, you can create the hat by using the picture as a guide. The hat is baked separately and the acrylic hair and had are glued onto the head after baking.

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