



Angel Heart Pendant & Earrings

Angel Sticker

1 oz. of Red Polymer Clay

1/4 oz. of Black Polymer Clay

2 1/2 yards of black nylon cording

Thin wire (24, 26 or 30 gauge)

Wire cutters and Round Rose pliers

Xacto knife

Dental spatula (or other smoothing tool)

Non-stick paper

Toothpick, Silver sparkly seed beads

Pen with round barrel

Earring wires

Acrylic Lacquer and small liner bush

Overview: The basic hearts are made with polymer clay using a heart mold. Twisted hanging wires are made and inserted. The angel sticker will be applied and embedded in the heart pendant. The earrings will be formed and wired and tiny sparkly beads will be applied. Seven or 8 square beads will be made and applied to the nylon cording. All of your clay elements will be baked and then a thin coat of acrylic will be mixed and applied over the Angel pendant giving it a glass enclosure look. It will take approximately 24 hours to fully cure.

A layer of acrylic lacquer will be carefully applied and dried. Then the ends of the cording will be buried in clay and safely cured, completing the necklace.

A square knot or the macramé slide closure can be used. Now we will begin with our step-by-step directions.



With polymer clay, you can match any fabric or outfit as well as theme, as you can see above.

The first step is to blend your clay to the proper color. This pendant is made by mixing up 2/16ths of a block of black clay and 8/16th of red clay. This formula will give you a slightly deeper, darker red than the red out of the package. Mix up your clay either by hand or with your pasta machine until all of the marbleizing is gone and you have a smooth even color. Roll out a pad of clay approximately 1/16th inch thick.

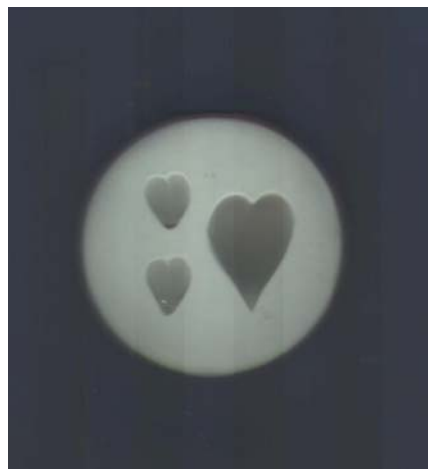
Twist up a hanging loop and embed into the clay backing, making sure the hole in the loop is sideways (so the nylon cord can slip through the heart properly).

Using your mold, or freehand, make a heart pendant shape and place on top of the clay making sure the wire is embedded in the center of the heart. Do the same with tiny hearts.

Cut out the hearts and smooth the sides of the hearts along the sides erasing the attachment line.

Flatten the top of your heart pendant with the side of a flat-barreled pen.

Cut out a heart-shaped sticker for the center of the pendant; we are using an Angel sticker here. Remove the backing of the sticker and stick it onto the center of the heart and using your dental tool, embed it evenly into the clay.



Mini Video: See how to make the pendant and earrings, add the wires, sparkly beads, and make the square beads.

Video Part 1

Video Part 2

Making Square Beads: Roll out a long rectangular coil of clay and flatten each side to make it into a rectangle. Cut into seven or eight 1/4 inch beads and poke a hole into the center of each bead with a toothpick. Make sure one of the beads has a hole large enough for two cords to pass through.

Bake the square beads and all three hearts in the oven according to the manufacturer's directions. Allow to fully cool.

Faux Glass Covering: Mix up equal parts of Side A and Side B of the Acrylic Thick Coat * and stir with a plastic spoon. Drizzle it slowly and carefully to cover and embed the Angel label. Using a toothpick, drag the thick coat out to the edges of the embedded area of the pendant and popping any air bubbles that might have formed from the pouring. Set aside to dry overnight.

Lacquer: Using a small liner brush, carefully paint on acrylic lacquer to the rest of the hearts, avoiding the sparkly beads and the faux glass covering. Allow to dry completely.

You can also use a similar product, one that adds a thick varnish or acrylic coating.



STRINGING:

String, Knot and Bead the Pendant: Beginning with 2 1/2 yards of black nylon cording, string the cording through the pendant hanging wire and center the cord on the cord. Tie a double knot right next to the pendant wire. Pass both cord ends through the square bead with the biggest hole and place next to your first knot. Tie another double knot and make sure it's close to the square bead. If you have any problems with the cord unraveling, wrap a piece of scotch tape around the ends to prevent it.

Tie another double knot 1 inch away from the center knot/bead/knot element. Add another bead, and then another double knot. Repeat from * to * until you have 3 knot/bead/knot elements on each side of your necklace.

Covering the ends with polymer clay caps: The last step is to cover the ends of your nylon cords with small polymer clay caps. Just pinch off little bits of clay and wrap the ends of the cording and form either a matching bead or a slender cap. Normally, you can bake the whole necklace while you cure the end caps; however, because you do not want to put the acrylic faux glass coating into the oven, simply lay your necklace above your heating source (home oven or toaster oven), drape your ends into the oven and close the door. The heat will cure the end caps but the necklace will be safe from the heat.

You can see below a picture of my necklace ends being cured in a toaster oven. The door is open so you can see the position of the cording ends. Once I close the toaster oven door, the ends will bake/cure and the rest of the necklace will remain on top of the oven safe from the heat.



Your necklace is finished when your cap ends are cured and cooled.

Closure: Finish your necklace with either a simple square knot or a macramé slide knot. There is another YouTube Video showing the slide knot: Part 1 and Part 2.