

Take & Make

Chunky Knit Planter!

Materials Provided:

- Tin Can
- 1lb of White Oven-Bake Clay

Additional Materials Needed:

- Baking Sheet
- Oven
- Ruler



Directions

- Wash your can and dry completely. All the cans were washed after being emptied of soup, but I would still suggest washing them again.
 - PLEASE USE CAUTION WHEN HANDLING YOUR CAN. THE INNER EDGE IS SHARP!
- Start by rolling out 2 pieces of clay into 2 long strings.
 - Each string should be about 11 to 12 inches in length.
 - The thicker your strings, the wider your braid will be. The thinner your strings the narrower your braid.
- Gently fold each string in half and twist.
 - The key is to twist one string left-over-right and the other string right-over-left. That way when the 2 twisted strings are side-by-side they look like they're twisting into each other.



- Lightly press the pair of twisted strands together to make it look like a braid.
- Once you have a braid ready, attach it to you can.
- Pinch off the excess clay at both ends of the braid and press down to adhere the clay to the can.
 - Please note, that when I first attempted this, my strings weren't quite as long as they should have been, which is why I have a larger section of flattened/pinched clay than what you see in the third picture below (from the Home Talk blog).



- Continue rolling out the clay, making braids, and adhering them to the can until it's fully covered.
 - It took me 13 braids to fully wrap around the can.
 - When done, your can should look like this:



- Using the remaining clay, roll out a long string that you can wrap around the top of the can to polish off the look!
 - You can also roll out a string to wrap around the bottom, but I opted out of doing this.
 - You could also add some clay to the inside rim to help cover the sharp edge of the can, again I didn't do this, but it would have been a good idea.



- Place your can on a baking sheet and bake in the oven at 275°F for 15 minutes per 1/4-inch thickness.
 - It took mine just under 30 minutes to bake - but I continually checked it:
 - I started out putting it in the oven for 15 minutes.
 - After checking it, I decided to put it back in for another 7 minutes.
 - The clay still seemed a little soft, so I put it back in the oven for another 3-5 minutes.
 - BE CAREFUL CHECKING YOUR CAN - THE CLAY WILL BE HOT!!!
 - You do not want to over bake the clay. If it looks like it's starting to smoke, pull it out of the oven.
- Once done baking, turn off the oven and allow the can to cool completely.
- Your chunky knit planter is done, all that's missing is the plant! Or, you could turn it into a desk organizer, or a candle, or something else entirely!