

What a Character[™] MoldF28

Serenity Face
Height: 3-inches or 7.62



Designed by Maureen Carlson

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Caution: Our silicone rubber is not FDA approved for use with food products.



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For more info on using our push molds, see this free PDF file:
www.weefolk.com/getting-started-making-doll-bodies.pdf
and watch our how-to YouTube videos at:
www.youtube.com/weefolkcreations

What a Charactertm Flexible Push Molds

General Directions for Using Molds with Closed Eyes

Use our molds with both polymer clay and air-drying clays or modeling compounds. If your clay is especially soft or sticky, you may need to brush the mold prior to each use with a very light dusting of cornstarch, baby powder or water. Experiment. Always brush away any residue that is left in the mold.



The amount of clay needed for each face varies depending on the size of the face and its final use. For the 2-inch mold, start with a 1 1/2-inch ball of clay. For the 3-inch mold, start with a 2 1/8-inch ball of clay. Roll clay into a smooth ball, then into a short cone shape.



Use your fingers to slightly hollow out the back of the clay cone.



Position clay into mold so that the point of the cone fits into the nose area.



Use your thumbs or a rounded tool to press into mold. The back side of the face should have a smooth, uniform egg-shaped hollow space with clay sides at least 1/4-inch thick. The finished face will be hollow in the back for 3 reasons:

1. Dries or bakes more evenly
2. Uses less clay
3. Is easier to manipulate

To remove clay from mold, loosen sides, then grasp the edges. Lift clay straight out of the mold. Use both hands so that the face doesn't skew sideways and become distorted. Tip: If the clay sticks, try using a second piece of clay as a handle to pull the face from the mold.



SHAPE THE FACE

Check the shape of the face. Do you need to cut away the edges? Would you like the face longer or shorter, wider or more narrow? Play with it. Alter it. Pinch and pull and squish. You can easily make it again if you mess up.

FINISHED? NOT YET!

You've probably noticed by now that there are some critical details missing in this face, for instance, nostrils. This was intentional as push molds can't have any undercuts, as those edges may catch, rip or scar the face when pulled from the mold.



SMOOTHING THE FACE

Smooth away unwanted marks on the face by gently brushing with either your fingertips or a soft brush. Use gentle, repetitive strokes rather than firm, harsh movements. If using polymer clay, experiment by using denatured alcohol or alcohol wipes for smooting.

ADDING DETAILS

Accentuate wrinkle lines, if desired, by using a variety of needle tools to press or rock along existing lines. Soften lines by smoothing with a tiny brush.



SHAPING THE NOSTRILS

To deepen the nostrils, first use a sharp needle tool to make a hole in the nostril, then use a larger tool such as a knitting needle to open and lift the nostril.

There is usually an indentation behind each nostril, against the cheek. To create this shape, use a needle tool and then a small brush to roll around the back edge of each nostril and then into the nostril opening.

FINISHING THE FACE

Do a final check on the size, shape and features of the face. All OK? Finish the face according to your clay package directions for hardening or curing.

MAKING A FULL HEAD

One method for creating an armature for a full head is to use aluminum foil combined with a wooden dowel or a strong wire.

To make the armature, start with a sheet of regular weight foil, using approximately a 1-foot piece for a 2-inch head and a 2-foot piece for a 3-inch head. Make a LOOSELY crumpled foil egg shape.

Roll the crumpled foil against your work surface to shape it into a smooth, firm egg shape. Lay the foil egg into the mold to see if it appears to be the right size. The size will also depend on how big the hollow space is in the back of the clay face.



Is your foil egg symmetrical? Smooth? Lumpy? If so, try adding some clay over the foil to fill in the uneven places.

Use a sharp tool to poke into the foil egg where you would like the neck to be. Insert the dowel or wire nearly to the top of the egg. Press the foil firmly around the dowel or wire to hold it in place.

NOTE: The neck is located behind the point of the chin, halfway towards the back of the egg. This creates an elongated egg shape for the face and a half ball shape for the back of the head.





Place clay face over foil egg, pressing or stretching it gently to make the edges fit onto the egg. You don't need to cover the back of the head with clay as you can do that in the second step, after hardening the face. If the face becomes deformed, ask yourself:

- Pressing too hard?
- Lumpy foil?
- Foil too big or too small?
- Uneven thickness of the clay?

Make indentations where you would like the ears to be. Harden the head according to package directions. Let it cool.



Cover the back of the head with a flattened piece of clay. Smooth the edges of the soft clay over the already hardened edges. Cut away excess soft clay. Use a knitting needle tool to roll and feather the soft clay onto and over the hardened edges. Smooth the surface using whatever smoothing agent works with your particular clay.

STEPS FOR EARS

- (a) Ball Shape
- (b) Egg Shape
- (c) Flattened Egg Shape



Press flattened egg shape into ear mold. Press clay away from the edges of the mold, toward the center. If clay overflows edges, start again using a smaller ball of clay. Remove ears from mold.

Tip: Use a ball of soft clay, to "lift" ear from mold.



Press ears over indentations in sides of head. Press rounded tool into center of ear to sink it into the indentation. Use brush and knitting needle tools to blend and smooth clay around ears.

Harden the clay according to clay package directions. Let it cool.

PAINTING

Lots of options here, but the easiest to use might be acrylic paint. For skin tones, choose a color of paint that is one or two shades darker than the hardened clay color. Choose color for lips and cheeks. Adding a bit of Matte Medium or Blending Gel to the paint will make it more translucent and allows more workable time. Brush on the base coat first. Wipe this away before it dries, leaving just a faint coloring. Dab on the cheek color with your fingers. Use a soft cloth to blot away any excess. Paint lips. Use a tiny brush, almost dry, with light lifting strokes to paint eyebrows and eyelashes.

Note that any cracks or rough spots in the clay will pick up extra color.