Materials

Play Dough Recipe

Stove-Top Version

This version creates the best texture and lasts for months when refrigerated in an airtight container.

Ingredients

- 2 cups flour
- 1/3 cup oil
- Scant 1 cup salt
- 2 cups cold water
- 4 tsp cream of tartar
- Food coloring (about 20 drops)
- Bowl, gallon-size plastic bag OR wax paper
- Airtight storage container(s)
- (Optional) quart-size plastic bag(s) for kneading in food coloring

Instructions

1. Stir together the flour, salt and cream of tartar in a large pot. Next, add the water and oil. If you’re only making one color, stir in the color now.
2. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly. Continue stirring until the dough has thickened and begins to form into a ball. Remove from heat. Place inside a bowl or gallon-size bag, or onto wax paper.
3. Allow to cool slightly. Then, knead until smooth.
4. If you’re creating multiple colors or adding colors at this point, divide the dough into portions for each color. Place the portioned dough into quart-size plastic bags. Add about 5 drops of color to the bags, adding more to brighten the color as desired. Knead the dough inside the bag so it doesn’t stain your hands.

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No-Cook Version

Ingredients

- 2 cups flour
- 2 tbs oil
- 1 cup salt
- 1 cup cold water
- 6 tsp alum or cream of tartar
- Food coloring (about 20 drops)
- Bowl, gallon-size plastic bag OR wax paper
- Airtight storage container(s)
- (Optional) quart-size plastic bag(s) for kneading in food coloring

Instructions

1. Stir together the flour, salt and cream of tartar. Next, add the water and oil. If you’re only making one color, stir in the color now.

2. Continue stirring until the dough has thickened and begins to form into a ball. Place inside a bowl or gallon-size bag, or onto wax paper.


4. If you’re creating multiple colors or adding colors at this point, divide the dough into portions for each color. Place the portioned dough into quart-size plastic bags. Add about 5 drops of color to the bags, adding more to brighten the color as desired. Knead the dough inside the bag so it doesn’t stain your hands.

5. Refrigerate in airtight containers.