HOMEMADE CHALK

Make festive homemade chalk this quick and easy craft.

MATERIALS

☐ Plaster of Paris
☐ Silicon mold
  • Or, paper roll and wax paper
☐ Plastic or disposable bowls, spoons and stirrers (The end of a plastic utensil will do.)
☐ Measuring cups: 1/3 or 1/4 cup
  • 2/3 cup of Plaster of Paris yielded four letters
☐ Measuring spoons: teaspoon or tablespoon
☐ Container for water
☐ Cardboard or other work-surface protection
☐ Paper towels/rag for spills

CRAFTING TIPS

☐ Plaster of Paris hardens quickly (6-8 minutes). Be prepared to work in batches and to clean your supplies right away.
☐ Wipe any spills up immediately before the plaster sets and hardens.
☐ If you want the same color each time, you'll want to carefully measure your ingredients. My "eye-ball" technique yielding varying shades of blue!
☐ Adding just white paint did not change the color of my mixture
☐ Adding more than 2-3 teaspoons of paint prevents the mixture from drying/settling.

INSTRUCTIONS

☐ Set up your station.
  • For paper roll and wax paper, cut wax paper to fit the roll and secure. Use excess wax paper as a base on which your roll should dry.
☐ Mix two parts Plaster of Paris with 1 part water.
  • Place Plaster of Paris in bowl first and then add water. Mix well.
☐ Add 1 teaspoon of paint to your mixture and mix well.
  • If your spoon can stand up (see photo right), your mixture is too thick.
  • Thin your mixture by either 1) add a ½ teaspoon of water or 2) adding more paint.
☐ For letters, add a drop or two of water before adding your mixture.
☐ Spoon mixture into mold or paper roll.
☐ Add a few drops of water or thinned out mixture to the top.
☐ Level/smooth the mixture by using the flat side of utensil.
☐ Wash bowls and utensils immediately before the plaster hardens.
☐ Typically, Plaster of Paris sets in 30 minutes.
  • Lightly touch the top of your mold to check to see if it’s dry. If you can see your fingerprint in the chalk, it’s not ready yet.