

crafter's corner

Carved Pumpkin

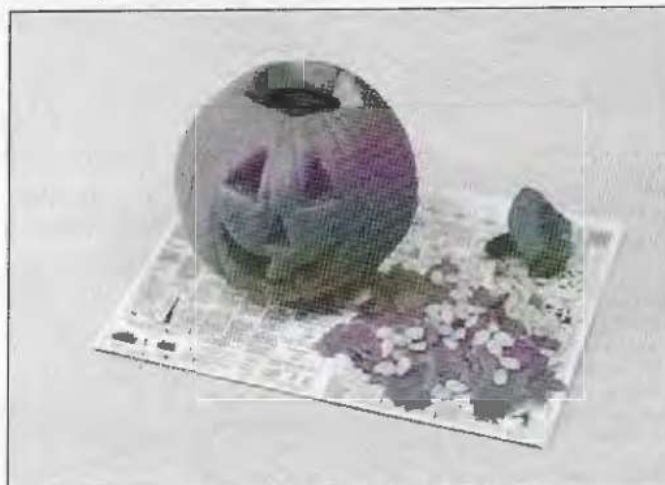
by Jane King

Supplies :

Orange FIMO
Small Styrofoam Ball
One Whole Clove
Sesame Seeds
Mini Newspaper or Brown Paper
X-Acto Knife
Ceramic Tile or Cookie Sheet for Baking

Instructions:

1. Knead a 1" ball of Fimo and place in the palm of your hand and press a thumb print in the center to hold the styrofoam ball. Press and pull FIMO around ball and smooth surface where FIMO edges meet
2. Make a dot center top and bottom. Press pumpkin ridges in with table knife or spatula from dot to dot.
3. Carve the pumpkin face happy or scary with the X-Acto knife leaving the carved pieces in place to help support during baking. Also cut lid at this time. You may need to go over the ridges again after carving the face. Glue clove at top dot for stem.
4. Take another 1/4" to 1/2" piece of Fimo and squish and stretch on the baking surface to make some pumpkin "guts" that would have been removed from pumpkin.
5. Bake at 300 degrees in a preheated oven for ten minutes. Styrofoam ball may shrink enough that it can be picked out of top while it is still hot and flexible. If not, pick small pieces of foam out with tweezers until inside is clean. Remove cut pieces from pumpkin face.
6. Glue pumpkin to newspaper or brown paper. Glue pumpkin "guts" and lid to the side. Glue some sesame seeds on the "guts" and on the paper. You can add a mini knife or spoon to complete the scene.
7. The pumpkin can be electrified with a grain of wheat bulb. Carve small hole in back or base of pumpkin.



Faux Marble

by Barbara Norman

When the summer issue of the Gazette arrived I removed it from its envelope. The envelope intrigued me so I put an idea straight to the test—recycling the envelope into miniature faux marble. It worked!

The process is simple—brush acrylic paint of your choice on the envelope, then wipe off with a damp paper towel. It may need a few more wipes depending on how thick the paint was applied. The thinner and lighter the paint, the lighter the color. Thick darker paint gives more distinct veining. Both sides of the envelope will work.

White plastic scraps, usually available at plastic fabricating companies, make great mounts for the paper. The paper should be cut larger than the plastic and glued on so that the edges will go around to the underside. The corners will need mitering. The marble paper should be cut to the size and shape of the plastic and the edges of the plastic finished.

A waterbase gloss can be brushed over the marble for a shiny effect. Two colors can be used if the second color is a very thin application.