Make your own Christmas presents for friends and family

Clay bowl or pot

Stay safe

Whether you are a scientist researching a new medicine or an engineer solving climate change, safety always comes first. An adult must always be around and supervising when doing this activity. You are responsible for:

- ensuring that any equipment used for this activity is in good working condition
- behaving sensibly and following any safety instructions so as not to hurt or injure yourself or others

Please note that in the absence of any negligence or other breach of duty by us, this activity is carried out at your own risk. It is important to take extra care at the stages marked with this symbol: ⚠

Equipment ⚠

- Air-dry clay Here is a link to buy air dry clay: Pottery and Clay | Create and Craft
- Drinking glass or a plastic cup for younger children
- Flowers
- Stencils
- Acrylic paint

Instructions ⚠

Firstly, look at the different size glasses that you have. You will be using these to mould your clay around to create your bowl. You may want a large pint glass to create a bowl or perhaps a smaller glass to create a bowl for small pieces of jewellery such as rings and earrings.

Look at the size of the glass across the centre of the circle. It’s called the diameter and is a straight line that runs through the centre of the circle from one side to the other. With a ruler, try measuring the diameter of the glass, how big is it?

In this diagram, it also shows you the radius. Looking at the diagram, can you explain what the radius is?
Step 1

Roll a piece of air-dry clay to the depth that you would like your bowl to be.

Step 2

Gently press the clay over the bottom of the glass to make a small, shallow bowl.

Step 3

Gently press whichever decoration you have chosen into the bottom of the bowl to create an imprint. You can make some lovely designs using leaves and small flowers, or you could go modern with LEGO® brick indents.

Step 4

Leave the clay to dry completely. It’s best to leave it for about 24 hours.

Step 5

Paint the bowl in your chosen colours.