

Tassels by Bobbie Takashima

(Teaching this project is approved by Bobbie)

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For \$4.00 I will supply the following (Carolyn)

½ stick Quick Wood wood putty epoxy
3" tall wood toy
Medium gauge floral wire
Jo Sonja's Retarder (a bottle cap's worth)

Items to bring (if you have them. Otherwise we will share.

Wire cutter or old pair of scissors.
Old "yucky" paint brush to apply wood glue.
Glue (Elmers, Gorilla, etc.)
Palette knife & stylus
A couple of toothpicks
2 bottle caps
Ribbon, yarn, torn fabric strips, etc.

1. Put a small amount of Retarder in one bottle cap and glue in the other.
2. Cut about an inch off the wood putty stick. Put Retarder on your fingers and blend the putty until it is all the same color. (I bought the putty at Home Depot. Lowes doesn't have it.)
 - * The drying time of the putty is determined by the environment, retarder and heat from your hands.
 - * Tee Hee tip: Add a touch of Retarder with the pad of your finger to the one inch piece of blended putty.
 - * Adding too much Retarder to the putty will cause the putty to sag out of control and take a long time to harden.
3. Pinch a small amount of putty to form basic shapes: i.e.: ball, cone, bun, ears, snake
The putty will dry rapidly, especially on hot, dry days.
4. Apply wood glue to all surfaces before attaching the wood putty. Do **not** fill in the hole in the top of the character!!!
5. Use floral wire for a touch of whimsy: (tails, flower stems, etc.)
 - * Cut a short length & curl the wire by wrapping it around the end of a brush handle.
 - * Dip one end of the wire into wood glue & insert in the fresh wood putty form.
6. Allow to dry overnight. Paint your tassel base any colors.
7. Finish with a clear glaze medium. Then, paint with Opal Dust for a "fancy" look.
8. Gather your strips of fabric, ribbon, yarn, etc. Fold in half and secure with the other piece of floral wire then pull up into your tassel body.