

*Education material
from Stone Leaf Pottery*

Peri Charlifu, Artist



Make a GRUMPY



Making faces is not difficult, what is more so, is making a face with an expression. There are several ways to do this. Most of the expression in a face come from the mouth and eyes. This Grumpkin will illustrate the basic shape of the face, the techniques to making expressions and some finishing techniques as well. Once you get the idea, you can adapt this technique to other faces and forms.



Step one: Start with a ball of clay, we're going to be making a pinch pot. It can be any size, this one is 3/4 pound.



Step two: Make a pinch pot, keeping it as spherical as possible. You can make two half spheres and attach them together if that's easier.



Step three: Using your finger or a tool, put grooves in the surface like a pumpkin, turn it so the opening is facing down. Set aside while you make the base



Step four: Make a thick disk that tapers like a plate dome. I painted the outside with orange slip. (See step 5 and 6)



Step five: Using green colored clay, force a small lump through a kitchen strainer to get a grass effect. Attache in sections until the area you want is covered.



Step six: Attach the "grass" to the base with a needle tool, gently pat into place. Note that this is going to be very fragile, especially when dry until it is glazed. Try no too touch it until its done glazing



Step 7: Paint the lower part of the pumpkin with orange (Or what ever color you want) slip or underglaze. Do not touch the wet slip if possible, this will insure a smooth surface.



Step 8: Score and using the orange slip attach to the base and gently press into the surface 3/4 of the way on the pumpkin to make placement for eyes as shown.





Step 9: Roll out a snake and taper it at both ends, this is going to be your upper lip and should be fairly thick, as its going to be smoothed in place (Step 10)



Step 10: Place the roll about half way down the face and dent in the lower lips on both sides of the middle as shown. Being careful not to smooth it into the face.



Step 11 Blend the upper part of the lip into the surface of the face making a gradual slope but leaving the bottom of the lip as is.



Step 12 Roll out a short, stout tube as shown. This is the lower lip.



Step 13 Place the lip as shown and blend the lower part of the lip into the chin, leaving the upper lip as is to form a mouth. You can take a needle tool and put lines in the lips to make them look more real.



Step 14 Make a fairly large tear drop of clay. This is the nose, a larger nose, like all exaggerated features add to the character of the face. Don't be afraid to try different sizes, until you find you you like.



Step 15 Place the nose and blend across the bridge of the nose and 3/4 down the sides of the nose don't blend the bottom of the nose yet.



Step 16 Using a cone tool or a pencil, pierce the nostrils and then using a needle tool, go up inside the holes and pierce the face to vent the air bubble you've made, to release gasses as it dries and fires.





Step 17 Blend down the center of the nose between the nostrils. Then make a thick tube, this is going to be cut into two so you can get two even sized pieces of clay. These will be for the brow.



Step 18 Cut the tube in two even pieces for the brow.



Step 19 Roll the pieces of the brow into a thin tapered cone. Place the brows on the face. Position them as shown to convey a grumpy expression.



Step 20 Smooth the bottom into place as shown to create eye sockets, leave the tops of them untouched. Then make two elongated footballs and gently pinch them into the shape shown. This is the lower lid. Use a single larger piece of clay divided in half to get them evenly sized.



Step 21 Place the lower lids and smooth them upward to create the eye socket. At this point I painted the rest of the pumpkin with my orange slip.



Step 22 To make the eyes and eyelids roll out four balls of clay the same size. Remember to size them to be proportionate to the rest of your face.



Step 23 Using two of the balls make little cups and place the eyeballs in them as shown.



Step 24 Place the eyes in the sockets. Note the placement of the pupils, by position the pupils differently will yield different expressions. Putting the pupil looking down will make your piece look haughty, crossing them will make him look crazy.

Step 25 Touch up your piece, add a stem and leaves and your Grumpkin is done!



*Education material
from Stone Leaf Pottery*

Peri Charlifu, Artist



Project: Annoyed Expresssion



Making faces is not difficult, what is more so, is making a face with an expression. There are several ways to do this. Most of the expression in a face come from the mouth and eyes. This expression will illustrate the basic shape of the face, the techniques to making expressions and some finishing techniques as well. Once you get the idea, you can adapt this technique to other faces and forms, you can put them on mugs, vases and bottles as well as pinch pots.



Step one: Start with a ball of clay, we're going to be making a pinch pot. It can be any size, this one is 3/4 pound.



Step two: Make a pinch pot, keeping it as spherical as possible. You can make two half spheres and attach them together if that's easier.



Step three: Invert the ball, you can seal the bottom or leave it open.



Step four: Using a ball tool or your finger, make depressions for the eye, the eye should be placed toward the top of the face. To leave room for the rest of the features.



Step five: Make a small ball of clay and flatten it out into a thick disk as shown, this is the mouth.



Step six: Attach the mouth to the lower part of the face, and blend the lower part of the disk to form a frown.



Step 7: Make two even sized snakes for the brow.



Step 8: Place the brow, arching the clay to make it look as if its annoyed. The placement of the brow is one of the ways to inform the expression of the face.





Step 9: Roll out a cone for the nose.



Step 10: Place the nose, smooth it in and make the nostrils with a pencil or cone tool.



Step 11 Place two equal sized balls for eyes and put in pupils with a pencil. Now your annoyed expression can judge you. At this point you can add ears or hair if you like.



*Education material
from Stone Leaf Pottery*

Peri Charlifu, Artist



Project: Goofy Expression



Making faces is not difficult, what is more so, is making a face with an expression. There are several ways to do this. Most of the expression in a face come from the mouth and eyes. This expression will illustrate the basic shape of the face, the techniques to making expressions and some finishing techniques as well. Once you get the idea, you can adapt this technique to other faces and forms, you can put them on mugs, vases and bottles as well as pinch pots.



Step one: Start with a ball of clay, we're going to be making a pinch pot. It can be any size, this one is 3/4 pound.



Step two: Make a pinch pot, keeping it as spherical as possible. You can make two half spheres and attach them together if that's easier.



Step three: Invert the ball, you can seal the bottom or leave it open.



Step four: Using a ball tool or your finger, make depressions for the eye, the eye should be placed toward the top of the face. To leave room for the rest of the features.



Step five: Carve several lines where the mouth will be as shown, kinda skeleton like! Make a shallow slit below the lines.



Step six: Roll out two tapered cylinders, one larger than the other, these are the upper and lower lips.



Step 7: Place the upper lip as shown, leaving one corner of the mouth open to show the teeth.



Step 8: Blend the upper lip into the face toward the eyes, as shown, leaving the lower section of the lip as is, to show the teeth.





Step 9: Add the lower lip and blend in as shown. leave enough of the mouth open to show the teeth.



Step 10: Add two cylinders to make the brows, play around with placement to see what expression you want him to have before you blend them in. I blended them in from top this time.



Step 11 Make two different sized balls, one should be larger than the other. These are his crazy eyes.



Step 12 Make one pupil much larger than the other. Play with the size and placement, the crazier the better for this guy!



Step 13 Make two balls and pinch them into shallow cup, leaving one end a little thick as shown to make his ears.



Step 14 Place his ears and blend them in toward the chin as shown, You can add earholes if you like, but he is crazy so whatever you do is great!

*Education material
from Stone Leaf Pottery*

Peri Charlifu, Artist



Project: Sleepy Expression



Making faces is not difficult, what is more so, is making a face with an expression. There are several ways to do this. Most of the expression in a face come from the mouth and eyes. This expression will illustrate the basic shape of the face, the techniques to making expressions and some finishing techniques as well. Once you get the idea, you can adapt this technique to other faces and forms, you can put them on mugs, vases and bottles as well as pinch pots.



Step one: Start with a ball of clay, we're going to be making a pinch pot. It can be any size, this one is 3/4 pound.



Step two: Make a pinch pot, keeping it as spherical as possible. You can make two half spheres and attach them together if that's easier.



Step three: Invert the ball, you can seal the bottom or leave it open.



Step four: Using a ball tool or your finger, make depressions for the eye, the eye should be placed toward the top of the face. To leave room for the rest of the features.



Step five: Make a cylinder, and a ball as shown, these are the upper and lower lips. Don't make them too small.



Step six: place the lip on the lower part of the face, leaving enough room for the nose.



Step 7: Blend the lip in from the top toward the eyes, leaving the lower part as is.



Step 8: Place the lower lip against the upper lip as shown and slightly blend the lower lip in toward the chin, leaving the top part of the lower lip as is.





Step 9: Roll out two equally sized balls of clay, these will be part of the eye sockets.



Step 10: make two small, shallow bowls with your clay balls.



Step 11 Place them in the eye sockets as shown.



Step 12 Blend the lower part into the cheek and make a fat teardrop shape for the nose. Make sure that your nose is big enough.



Step 13 Blend the nose in and add nostrils with a pencil or cone tool. Make four equally sized balls. These are the eye balls and the eye lids.



Step 14 Cut two of the balls in half and make them into shallow cups as shown. Place them on the eyeball to form eyelids



Step 15 Place the eyes in the sockets. Play with placement until you find the look you want.



Step 16 Make two equal sized balls of clay and flatten them into a shallow cup like you did for the eyelids, only larger, these will be the ears.



Step 17 Blend the ears into the face as shown, pierce the ears to form the inner structure.



Step 18 Side view



Step 19 Pass a soft ball of clay through a cheap kitchen strainer to make hair. Slip the top of the head and apply the clay, working the hair in with a needle tool. Pat the hair down gently to make sure its set well.



Step 20 Now your guy can get some sleep. You could add a old timey nightcap, or give your guy a beard. Just have fun!



*Education material
from Stone Leaf Pottery*

Peri Charlifu, Artist



Project: Surprised Expression



Making faces is not difficult, what is more so, is making a face with an expression. There are several ways to do this. Most of the expression in a face come from the mouth and eyes. This expression will illustrate the basic shape of the face, the techniques to making expressions and some finishing techniques as well. Once you get the idea, you can adapt this technique to other faces and forms, you can put them on mugs, vases and bottles as well as pinch pots.



Step one: Start with a ball of clay, we're going to be making a pinch pot. It can be any size, this one is 3/4 pound.



Step two: Make a pinch pot, keeping it as spherical as possible. You can make two half spheres and attach them together if that's easier.



Step three: Invert the ball, you can seal the bottom or leave it open.



Step four: Using a ball tool or your finger, make depressions for the eye, the eye should be placed toward the top of the face. To leave room for the rest of the features.



Step five: Make a small ball of clay and flatten it out into a thick disk as shown, this is the mouth.



Step six: Attach the mouth to the lower part of the face, as shown.



Step 7: Using a cone tool or pencil, open the mouth as shown, this will help with the surprised expression. Make a cone of clay for the nose.



Step 8: Place the cone of clay as shown and smooth in on the sides a third of the way down and across the bridge of the nose.





Step 9: With a pencil or scribe pierce the nostrils as shown.



Step 10: Side view



Step 11 make a ball, cut in two even pieces and roll into tapered snakes as shown, these are the brows.



Step 12 Place the brows as shown, note that the placement of the brows will inform the emotion of the face as well as the mouth.



Step 13 Blend the brow inward, leaving the outside as is. Place two equal sized balls for the eyes. Note that the eyes should be big and proportionate to the face.



Step 14 Pierce the pupils with a thick scribe or pencil. By moving the placement of the pupils, you can make your guy look up, down or to the side. Make two equal balls, these are the ears.



Step 15 Cup the balls to make two disks, making sure to leave enough clay to form the outside of the ear as shown.



Step 16 Place your ears to be even with the eyes.





Step 17 Blend the ears into the face as shown, pierce the ears to form the inner structure.



Step 18 Roll out a small cylinder. This is the tongue, flatten it and place it in the mouth.



Step 19 Using a pencil or sharpened dowel. Run a slight line down the center of there tongue. At this point finish the surface. You can add hair, a beauty mark or other features.

