

Skeeter's Salt Dough Ornaments

Ingredients:

4 cups of all-purpose flour

1 cup of salt

1.5 cups of warm water

1 straw

Acrylic paint, clear glaze sealant,

glitter, ribbon for decorating,

or anything else you can think of! (optional)

Instructions

Preheat the oven to 250°F (120°C).

Make the dough. In a large bowl, combine the flour and salt. Slowly add warm water and mix until a dough forms. If the dough is too sticky, add a little more flour; if it is too dry, add a little more water.

Knead the dough for about 10 minutes until it is smooth and pliable.

Roll and cut. Roll the dough out to a thickness of 1/4 to 1/2 inch. For handprint ornaments, you may want to aim for the thicker end of the range. Use cookie cutters to create shapes, or press your child's hand or foot into the dough to make a lasting impression.

Make a hole. Use a straw to poke a hole near the top of each ornament for a ribbon or hook.

Bake the ornaments. Place the ornaments on a parchment-lined baking sheet and bake for 1 to 2 hours, or until completely hard. Thicker ornaments will take longer to

bake. You may also let the ornaments air-dry for 2 to 4 days.

Decorate. After the ornaments have cooled completely, let your kids paint them with non-toxic acrylic paint. Once the paint is dry, you can add details with markers or glue on glitter.

Seal and hang. To preserve your ornaments, spray them with a clear glaze sealant or paint a layer of Mod Podge on top once all the paint is dry. Once sealed, thread a ribbon, yarn, or twine through the hole for hanging.

Fun salt dough ornament ideas

Santa handprints: After baking, paint the handprint white and add a red Santa hat on the thumb. Use a permanent marker to draw eyes and a nose, and glue a small cotton ball to the tip of the hat.

Textured ornaments: Roll the dough and use everyday items to create unique textures before baking. A fork, apple corer, or even a potato masher can create interesting patterns.

Pet paw prints: Include your furry friends by making paw print ornaments. Just remember to bake and seal them so they last.

Cinnamon-scented ornaments: Add 2 tablespoons of ground cinnamon to your recipe to give your ornaments a warm, spicy scent and a darker, rustic color.

Glittery ornaments: For a festive and sparkly effect, spread craft glue inside the handprint impression or all over the ornament, then sprinkle glitter on top.

