

## Flower Canes for Beads, Buttons and Bobbles

Instructions and Photos by Syndee Holt

This is a classic flower cane - it's easy, versatile, and ALWAYS amazes people. I'm asked repeatedly to assemble this cane when I demonstrate. The recommended colors are very classic. If "retro 60's" is more your style, try using fluorescent colors for the flower and black for the background!



### Materials:

- Premo! Sculpey in the following colors:
  - Cadmium Yellow 5572
  - Orange 5033
  - Cobalt Blue 5063
- Pasta machine
- Sculpey Super Slicer blade
- Tool to poke holes in beads, such as a bead drill, needle tool, or doll needle

### Instructions:

1. Roll the yellow clay into a ball, and then slightly flatten the ball into a cylinder about 2 inches long.
2. Wrap the cylinder with a ¼ inch layer of Orange clay (#1 setting on pasta machine). Roll cylinder slightly to seal it.



3. Reduce the cylinder to about 3/8-5/8" diameter and cut into 5 equal pieces at 1-1/2-2 inches long. NOTE: This is done by rolling the cylinder the applying pressure with the hands from the center out. The goal is to keep the cylinder the same diameter from end to end without bulges. Go slowly, and as the clay warms it moves smoothly and evenly.

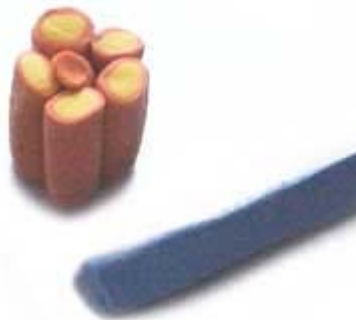
4. Lay the 5 pieces together so that they touch each other and then stand the new group on end. You should now have a small "fence" of clay rods.



5. Gently wrap this line of rods into a circle and visually measure the diameter of the open center.

6. Roll a cylinder of the orange clay to fit this center and place it in the center of the group. Close the "petals" around the center and press lightly to seal.

7. Now, roll a cylinder of the blue clay to about 1/3 inch diameter and pinch up the top to form a long triangle of blue clay.



8. Place a strip of this blue triangle between each "petal" taking care to keep the point between the petals.



9. Flatten the remaining blue clay into a thin even sheet (1/8" in diameter or #4 on pasta machine). Wrap around the outside of the clay "cane". Trim the edges and roll slightly to smooth seam.



10. Press again gently to seal. Then squeeze from the middle of the assembled cane to each end. This should reduce the diameter of the cane and remove any air pockets which could cause distortion.





