

Molds, Paperclay® and Delight®  
may be purchased from  
[www.gingerhausstore.com](http://www.gingerhausstore.com)



# Gingerhaus® News

Springerle Molded Ornaments, Cards & Gift Tags



Making elegant ornaments, wands, cards and gift tags is easy by using Gingerhaus®  
springerle molds, paperclay®, delight®, bees wax, and paper casting material.

Here's how:

**SUPPLY LIST:**

Cookie Mold

Paperclay® or Delight®

Oil, Watercolor or Acrylic Paint

Paintbrushes

Cotton Rag or Paper towels

Coordinating Paper for Back

Ribbon

Adhesive Glue

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# Paperclay® Ornaments

## 1. Casting

### Paperclay or Delight

Make a casting from Paperclay® or Delight®. Knead selected material

into a solid mass and with a rolling pin, roll material about 1/2 inch thick on a flat surface brushed with cornstarch. Brush the cookie mold with cornstarch. Press the mold firmly and straight down into the Delight or Paperclay®. Lift the mold straight up. Cut the casting and place on a cookie rack to dry. Repeat, making desired number of castings. Let dry approximately 24 hours. You may sand any rough edges with fine sand paper.

## 2. Paint as desired

For this ornament, the center background was painted with warm white, the outer border with a soft yellow, the raised frame with cad yellow, the pine cone a medium brown and the pine bough an avocado green. The raised yellow border was dotted with a deep burgundy. Let the

paint dry for 15 minutes and then brush a glazing medium over the entire surface. Let dry for 2-3 hours.

## 3. Antique the painted surface

Mix glazing medium with raw umber paint (3:1). With a large flat brush, quickly coat the painted surface with this mixture.

Immediately wipe the surface with the cotton rag, leaving the antiquing glaze in the recesses and corners. Let dry 3 - 4 hours or overnight.

## 4. Varnish

Brush with varnish and let dry several hours.

## 5. Finishing

Cut a 6" piece of ribbon and adhere to the top back side of the ornament. Cut a piece of coordinating paper to

fit the back surface and glue it on the backside over the ribbon ends. If you wish, write a message on the paper side of the ornament.

**SUPPLY LIST:**

Cookie Mold

Beeswax

Vegetable Oil

Pastry Brush

Old electric skillet or double boiler

Ladle (preferably with a lip)

1/8" - 1/4" wide ribbon

Palette knife or butter knife

Acrylic Paint

Paint Brushes (non food use)

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## Cast Wax Ornaments

### Procedures:

Most of our cookie molds will require building a dam higher than the edge of the mold to contain the wax. This can be done with 3 folded layers of aluminum foil secured with rubber bands (or tape for irregularly shaped molds such as hearts) around the outside edge of the mold.

Heat the wax in an old electric skillet using the lowest setting, or in an old double boiler just until it is melted. Do not heat the wax directly over a burner as it is flammable. (If wax catches fire, DO NOT throw water on it. Instead cover the flames with a lid to cut off the oxygen.) Allow the wax to cool a bit, but not so much that it starts to harden around the edges of the pan.

Using a pastry brush, lightly oil the cookie molds with a little vegetable oil.

With a lipped ladle, pour the wax into the cookie molds and set them aside to cool. Use one continuous motion to fill cookie mold dam to prevent layering of the wax. The wax will shrink slightly as it cools. Remove the casting before the casting is completely cool and still slightly flexible.

Cut ribbons to desired length. Heat the pallet knife or butter knife over the burner of the stove. Turn the wax ornament face down and press the hot knife into the place where you want to attach the ribbon. It will melt the surface of the wax. Quickly position ribbons, then press them into the back of the ornament with the hot knife. If you decide to paint the ornaments, use acrylic paints available at any art store.

**SUPPLY LIST:**

Cookie Mold  
 Cotton linters or 100% cotton paper  
 Paper additive (optional)  
 Tissue paper tints (optional)  
 Water-based teas or dyes (optional)  
 Lavender, dried flowers,(optional)  
 Herbs and scents (optional)  
 Water  
 Clean absorbent towels  
 Blender  
 Strainer  
 Tweezers  
 Knife  
 Large Sponge

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# Papercasting

## Procedures:

Do not add paint to the pulp as it will discolor your mold. To tint the pulp, add a small piece of colored tissue paper, which has the correct paper dyes. Always remove the casting from the mold to dry. Do not expose the mold to prolonged moisture.

### Preparing the mold:

Make sure the surface of the mold is clean and dry. Place your mold face up on a clean absorbent towel or cloth on a firm surface.

### Prepare pulp (We offer two suggestions for this step):

**Arnold Grummer's Cotton Linters** – This product is finely shredded, giving a smoother finish to your casting. With practice you will have a better idea of how much pulp you will need for the mold you have chosen to cast. Fill blender  $\frac{3}{4}$  full of water. Add a handful of linters and  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon of paper additive, if using, to the blender and mix until well blended into a pulp. Pour into strainer to drain off excess water. Transfer the very wet pulp into the palm of your hand. Gently squeeze some water from pulp. Do not squeeze pulp dry. If the pulp is too dry, it will not cast the delicate details of your mold.

**Cotton Paper Pulp** – You can also use 100% cotton paper that is torn into small pieces. With practice you will have a better idea of how much pulp you will need for the mold you have chosen to cast. Fill blender  $\frac{3}{4}$  full of water. Soak for 15 minutes. Chop or puree until you have a fine pulp. Pour into strainer to drain off excess water. Gently squeeze some water from pulp. Do not squeeze pulp dry. If the pulp is too dry it will not cast the delicate details of your mold.

### Fill the mold:

Plop the “pancake” of pulp on the mold. Be sure to cover carving and allow for extra “white space” around image. This will allow space for a beautiful deckled edge. Over a bowl, press the pulp gently to begin extracting water from the pulp.

### Extract the water:

Press a large sponge onto the pulp to remove water. Then, with a terry towel firmly push pulp into the carving. Cover pulp with





### Papercasting (continued)

towel and continue to blot excess water. Make sure to press firmly over the detailed areas of your mold to ensure they will appear on your casting. Use dry towel as needed.

#### Deckling the edges:

At this stage, the casting is very fragile and will tear very easily. However, controlling the tear of “deckled edge” can be tricky. To help control the tear, try this tip: Apply firm pressure with your fingers to the paper pulp around the edges of the cookie mold as you pull away pieces of pulp to create a deckled edge. Because of the fibrous nature of the paper pulp you run the risk of removing a large portion of the casting without applying firm pressure. Remember, you can always remove a tiny bit more, but once you pull off a section too big, it can be difficult to re-apply. Go slowly and gently. Use tweezers to remove very small pieces of pulp.

#### Remove the casting:

With your fingertips, carefully loosen the compressed pulp from the edge of the mold. Or use a very thin bladed knife. Turn the mold upside down to allow gravity to help you ease the casting out of the cookie mold. Place the casting on a cookie rack to dry. I prefer a small grid cookie rack.

#### Prevent warping:

Gently place weights along the edge of the casting to prevent warping. We have had success by placing cutlery across the corners. Experiment with items that will not leave an imprint.

#### Drying the casting:

Allow the casting to dry completely overnight. Drying time may vary depending upon humidity or temperature. A cookie cooling rack works well for this by allowing air to flow on both sides.

#### Bad result:

If you are not happy with the casting, crumble it up and place it back in the blender!

#### Creative ways to use paper castings:

Wall decorations, scrapbooking, greeting cards, stationery, invitations, announcements, picture frames, gift tags, ornaments.



**SUPPLY LIST:****Casting:**

Cookie Mold

Cotton linters or 100% cotton paper  
(supplies on Papercasting page)**Decorating:**

Spray Fixative

Acrylic Paint

Glazing Medium

Ribbon

Paper for Backing

# Gift Tags

**Procedures:****Make casting**

Make a paper casting with the Bunch of Grapes cookie mold. See our paper casting instructions if necessary.

**Apply fixative**

Apply a coat of spray fixative to the top surface of the paper casting and let it dry. This will keep the acrylic paints from bleeding.

**Paint the paper casting**

Mix burgundy with glazing medium and paint all grapes. Shade left side of grapes with plain burgundy paint. Mix olive green paint and glazing medium and paint leaves. Shade leaves with straight olive green paint. Paint the stem and add details to leaves with raw umber. Highlight right hand side of grapes by dry brushing white paint. Let dry.

**Apply ribbon**

Cut 6" ribbon and glue to the back of the paper casting. Cut coordinating paper and glue the casting to the paper, covering the raw ends of the ribbon.

**Add note**

Write message on the back of the completed gift tag.



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