

Materials List

Puzzler Molds: by ClayPuzzling.com

Any size Globe Molds

Brushes & Tools: by Royal & Langnickel Brush

R2845-10, 8 & 6 Aqualon Ultimate Glaze
SG Soft Grip Round Brushes

Miscellaneous:

Clay body of choice
Board
Assorted clay tools
Clay Extruder

Color: by Mayco

CG-717 Pistachio on the shell
EL-108 Jade Moss on the head, tail and feet
SC-81 Cinnamon Stix for eyes
SC-15 Tuxedo for eyes

Contact the Artist

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These turtles are fun and easy to make with the use of Bisque Puzzler molds, clay, extruder, tools and some colors. See this technique in action and visually see each step by going to www.ifiredarts.com and search for the Clay Puzzled Turtles webinar.

Solid Puzzling Method

Step 1 Select the Globe Puzzler Mold of choice and open. Only one half of the mold will be used in this technique.

Step 2 Roll a few coils of clay or use an extruder to make the coils. Roll several balls of clay in various sizes.

Step 3 Place the coils inside the half of the Puzzler mold you are working with. Place them in different directions to split up the open area of the mold.

Step 4 Press the clay balls in around the coils, filling in all openings. Leave a little bit of space around the top edge of the mold so you can add a coil.

Step 5 Roll or extrude a coil of clay to place around the top edge of the mold, leaving a nice finished edge.

Step 6 Press all the coils and balls with a towel or sponge. If you don't want to press hard and lose some of the depth to shell design, just run





your fingers over the clay to attach all parts. Not attaching the parts well could cause them to come apart while drying or during firing.

Step 7 Roll out a large coil the thickness you want the legs. Roll it long enough that you can cut it into four legs. Allow extra clay length to attach in the underside. Round the end of each coil to make the feet.

Step 8 Score the area where the legs will attach and the area on the legs that attach. Apply slip mixture and press legs into place. Gently bend over the edge of the "shell."

Step 9 Roll a thicker coil of clay to make the head. Use your fingers to shape. Use wooden tools to add textures or designs. Roll small balls of clay and attach with slip for the eyes. Attach using the same method as the legs.

Step 10 Roll a small coil of clay for the tail. Taper one end so it comes to a point. Attach using the same method as the legs.

Step 11 Place a flat board on top of the legs and gently turn the turtle over and remove the puzzler mold. It may be necessary to place a sponge or wad of paper towel under the head to prop it up while it dries.

Step 12 Allow sufficient drying time before firing to the proper cone for the clay body selected.

Step 13 Apply glazes and fire to appropriate temperature for clay body and colors used.

Extruder Turtles

The process to make the extruder turtle starts with making coils only and no balls of clay. Press the coils into place and make slightly more solid in the area where the head, feet and tail will attach. Make and add head, feet and tail in the same manor.

