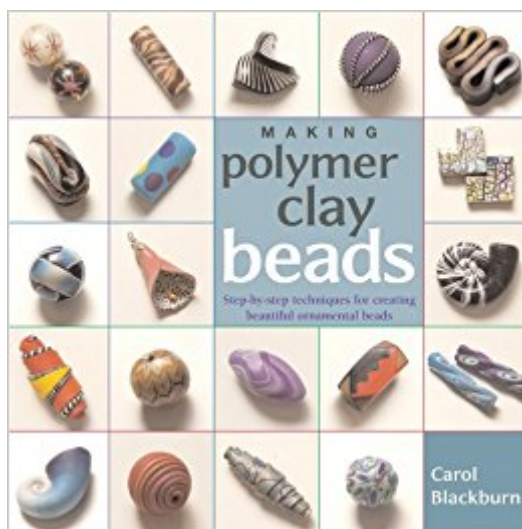


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# Making Polymer Clay Beads



## Synopsis

A comprehensive introduction to the materials, tools, equipment, and techniques used to make unique beads with a variety of shapes, colors, and finishes. The straightforward instructions discuss topics that include conditioning raw clay and making simple shapes; producing more complex shapes, such as rounds, canes, and spirals; decorating the beads with foils, powders, and millefiori; and creating faux effects like ivory, bone, turquoise, marble, and silver. A gallery of beads by internationally renowned artists, hundreds of step-by-step photographs of new beads designed by the author, and a clay gauge that allows one to estimate how much clay is necessary to make a specific quantity of beads are included, making this a comprehensive guide that will provide inspiration, demonstrate the range of effects that can be achieved in polymer clay, and teach beaders how to incorporate these beads into jewelry designs.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"If you need a 'hit' of polymer clay inspiration, you'll want to take a look at this new book." ["Polymer Clay Daily"](#) "A fantastic book! It's well written, concise, and beautiful." ["Polymer Clay Central.com"](#) "This is one of the best books I have seen on the subject of polymer beads." ["Upper Midwest Bead Society Newsletter"](#) "A stunning gallery of handmade beads that might even cause a non-crafter to rush out and purchase blocks of polymer clay." ["Detroit News"](#) "This book is a real gift to the polymer clay world." ["San Diego Polymer Clay Guild newsletter"](#) "This stunning collection of bead possibilities is enough to

make one fall in love with the versatility of polymer clay all over again." – Monsters and Critics.com "A concise yet comprehensive reference on this colorful medium." – Art Jewelry magazine "If you've ever thought about trying polymer clay but didn't know where to start, this book is perfect for you." – South Jersey Bead Society

Carol Blackburn is a designer who works with polymer clay, beads, and tassels. She is a member of the British and American Polymer Clay Guilds.

very nice book - great ideas and easy to follow directions - worthwhile purchase for the hobbyist

This will keep my son and I busy this summer! Great resource.

I bought this book on recommendation from other reviews here. Am I ever happy I did! This is definitely THE book for learning how to make faux effects! It happened that I had already been searching in vain for information on how to make imitation bone without having to purchase the product "Faux Bone", which is not within my budget. Lo and behold both imitation bone and ivory are in this book, and it looks real - as do the pearl, mother-of-pearl, abalone, coral, agate, jade, silver, gold, bronze, wood, turquoise, amber, lapis, etc. all appearing perfectly natural! The only effect that was not an exact facsimile was the malachite -- but with all those other delicious choices, who cares? But the book goes way beyond making fabulous fakes, the fantasy pieces are amazing, from wind-chimes to kaleidoscope! There are even pieces that look like blown glass. This whole book is just making my imagination go wild! There are techniques in this book that I have found nowhere else. Really, this book is a dream come true. If you are looking to find a book on using polymer clay and can only afford a single, all-purpose book, this is it. Buy it!

If you want to know how to make all kinds of polymer clay beads this is the one. I would recommend it for an intermediate level. It does not go into great detail on how to smooth, slice, pierce or make skinner blends and these are must know skills. They do explain it but perhaps not using the details a beginner would need. That is not a mark against this book. If they gave all those details they would have had to drop some of the techniques. It has so many ideas it positively made my head spin. I could not decide which to do first. Usually when I buy a book like this I dog ear the projects I want to try. I found myself doing this to EVERY type in the book so I gave up. Every bead pictured on the cover is outlined in the book with even more ideas and variations. Too bad they only had 5 stars.

Really deserves six. Awesome investment

Wow! A really useful book. I especially like how to make polymer beads that look JUST LIKE real stones! A plethora of knowledge in this little treasure!!

great book for making beads or coming up with ideas to make other types of beads.

Although Ms. Carol Blackburn's focus for the book is on making beads, this book can be used as a polymer clay technique encyclopedia. I've used polymer clay to make ornaments, doll heads, and simple beads. Although my building skills are good, I knew there was more I could do with the medium. I found this book and kept it on my wish list on and off, because I didn't know if it would help me. Finally, I ordered it about a month ago and haven't regretted it. There is a plethora of information that can be applied to any project to take it from nice to stunning. The detailed instructions and multiple photographs will guide you through each and every step. Since the tools she uses are not always readily available, she also gives alternatives for many of them. Rather you are considering further explorations with polymer clay medium or are looking for a book with advanced faux effects, folds and sculpts, this is the book to get.

Love this book. Well illustrated instructions for many basic techniques that you can mix and build on. I especially liked the inspirational galleries of finished pieces in the techniques that were in the upper margin of each page.

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