

pottery - tips

Number 6: The Hedgehog Jonathan



You need:

Wire to cut
Wooden modeling tool or pencil
Pottery cutting needle or
toothpick
Wire loop modeling tools

And ... clay!

Every year, when fall is coming along, it's time for the hedgehog to get ready for hibernation and we won't see him again until spring.

But our hedgehog does not need hibernation; he is there all year long.

Give it a try and.... good luck!



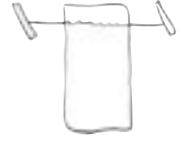
Sabine Harlan

Sabine Harlan, Professional Potter
Nabertherm

The kiln to success:
Nabertherm-Kiln top 60

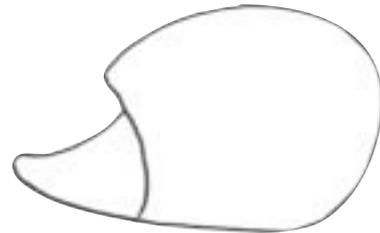
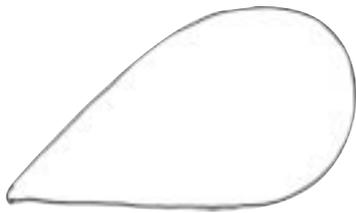


① For bigger objects (more than 10 cm) we would recommend the use of dead clay. The modeled objects are less likely to break this way. Open the bag of clay and cut off a small piece of clay with the **cutting wire**. Don't forget to close the bag, because the clay will dry up. Add water to some clay and mix it: that is going to be the "glue" for all doughs. It's called slip. If you have only small pieces of clay it is sufficient to dip them into water.



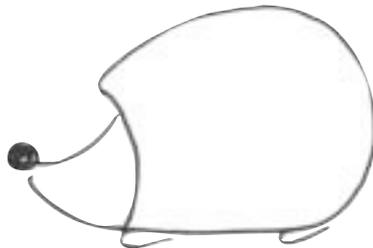
② At first model a big drop. That's going to be the hedgehog's body.

③ Use your hands to put an edge in the smaller side of the drop. This way you can separate the face from the hedgehog's prickly body. Bend the point above



④) A little ball is going to be the nose and after squeezing them flat four little balls are going to be the feet. Dip them into water; press them tight on the body and spread.

⑤ Now you use the wooden **modeling tool**. First you have to dent two holes in his head. Then form two little balls, dip them into water and put them carefully into the eye sockets. Now use the tool or a pencil to make two small holes into the eyes... and.... he's looking right at you.



⑥ If your hedgehog should be bigger than 7 cm you hollow him out with the **modeling tool**. Otherwise the hedgehog could break during firing.

⑦ At last you use the **pottery needle** to create the typical prickly-structure on the whole body. Don't forget to use a knife to cut the hedgehog's mouth. Afterwards the hedgehog should dry **14 days** before firing – which will be his first and also his last long rest.

