

Embedded Heart Ornament

By Laurie Mika

Materials :

Wax paper

2 (2 ounce) packages of red polymer clay- Premo pomegranate

A rolling pin or even a piece of PVC pipe works

Silver Leaf- Artminds EASY leaf - Michaels

Rubber stamp- Michelle Ward's "Printed Matter"
(www.greenpepperpress.com)

Pegz snap together alphabet stamps - Amazon

Rub n Buff-silver - Michaels

Weldbond Glue

Miscellaneous metal findings and small do-dads like beadcaps

Quinacridone Nickel Azo gold paint by Golden and black acrylic paint

Medium paintbrush

Pencil with an eraser

Skewer or a straw

Instructions:

Roll out two packages (2 ounce) of conditioned red polymer clay into a slab about ¼ inch thick on a piece of wax paper.

Cut out a piece of silver leaf to fit the size of the heart shaped cookie cutter and place it foil-side down onto the clay slab. Remove the paper backing.

Place rubber stamp onto the leaf and hold in place while firmly impressing the stamp with your other hand. (The leaf is slippery so the stamps tend to move.) Peek to see if you have a good impression before lifting it off.

Lift up the slab to make sure it doesn't get embedded into your wax paper.

Use heart-shaped cookie cutter and cut out shape.

On a remaining piece of clay, use word stamps and stamp out a word of your choosing. Cut out word leaving it a bit longer on the edges to wrap around your heart. Use Rub n Buff on a paper towel and gently rub over the word so it is readable.

Use acrylic paint and a paintbrush to lightly apply paint to the heart. This helps seal the silver leaf and also tones the leaf down. I used Golden's Quinacridone Nickel Azo Gold and black paint. Lightly dab with a paper towel to get rid of brush strokes.

Use a skewer or a straw and poke holes near the top of the heart making sure not to get too close to the edge. Push the skewer all the way through the clay.

Place your word where you would like it and then lay out all of your metal findings into a pleasing design.

Use Weldbond glue and glue the word into place bending it if desired. Next glue the findings into place using a pencil eraser to help embed/set them so they are secure. Place two open findings over the holes and glue into place. Make sure that the holes are open on the back side too.

Bake as directed. I generally bake for 25 minutes in a 275° toaster oven.

Let cool.

Thread ribbon or wire through the openings when cool.

For more information visit: www.mikaarts.com