

Cheryl Boglioli Designs

Living The Art Life™



Powertex© Meerkats

Materials

- Empty roll of aluminum foil 10"-12" or smooth foam tube of 1 ½"
- Polystyrene ball 1"
- Aluminum foil
- Masking tape
- Powertex© Blue grey (lead color) 1kg
- Powertex© Stone Art 250g
- Powertex© Pigment colors Mocha, Yellow Ochre and White
- Powertex© Easy Varnish
- ½" paintbrush
- 2 black pearl pins for the eyes
- Black paint
- disposable gloves
- disposable plastic containers to mix in
- electricity wire or armature wire : 2 x 12" : paws
- 1 x 13" : arms - 1 x 13" : tail
- Some pieces of fabric (cotton strips) +- 6 of 2" x 20"
- plastic to protect surface
- sharp knife



It is always recommended to do some research before starting an animal project. Learning about the habitat and lifestyle will make you get a feeling for your project. It will help you to bring your animal (Meerkat in this case) to life and to give each of them 'personality'.

INSTRUCTIONS



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1. Protect your work with plastic as Powertex® adheres to almost anything but plastic.
2. Fill the empty aluminum foil tube with aluminum foil and attach the Styrofoam ball on top.
3. Use foil to shape the head and nose and add more shape to the body.
4. The Meerkats in the picture are about 13" when finished.
5. For the hind legs (5 ½" of length) : bend the two 12" wires to form the hips and the feet. Shape with aluminum foil (see picture). Cover with masking tape and afix them onto the body.
6. The other wire of 13" is used for the front legs (arms). Tape it around the neck and bring them in position. Use a folded sheet of aluminum foil to shape the arms. Do not make them too thick since a layer of clay has to be added and you do not want them out of proportion. The shoulders should have a width of about 3".



7. Use some aluminum foil to shape the tail, wrap very tight and tape it onto the body.
8. It is important to have a sturdy base! This means wrap the foil real tight and tape everything well with masking tape.
9. Put on your disposable gloves.
10. Dip the strips of cotton into the Powertex® lead, wring out. Wrap the tail, arms and feet, starting by the end. When applying a thin layer of Stone Art clay in the next step, some of these folds will still be visible, which gives a nice texture.
11. Mix equal amounts of Powertex® lead with Stone Art using a spatula and keep adding Stone Art powder until you get a kind of smooth bread dough. Knead well with your hands until it does not stick anymore to your hands. When too sticky, add more Stone Art - when too dry, add some more Powertex.
12. Cover your Meerkat with a coat of Powertex, which will help to 'glue' the clay. You can use your fingers as paintbrush for this part. Keep in mind that Powertex is a



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hardener; you can use a paint brush but you do have to clean it immediately after use.

13. Cover your Meerkat with a layer (no thicker than 1/5") of this Stone Art clay. Use your finger and Powertex to smooth it out when necessary to prevent lines and cracks.
14. Use this clay to finish shaping the nose, nostrils, the ears and feet.



15. Wherever you already wrapped it with fabric, just add a very thin layer.
16. Use a knife to make cuts for toes and fingers.
17. Dry brush the Meerkat with the color pigments and Easy Varnish, starting with Mocha, Yellow Ochre and finally White for the front.
18. Use some black for the nose, ears, eyes and nails.
19. Press black pins for eyes.

If you want to create more animals we can recommend our Powertex Animal Kingdom book with fun projects and step by step instructions.

Meerkat project designed by Brigitte Grade for Powertex



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