

BREAD DOUGH

There are 6 different kinds of dough to make and use. The first 4 differ in ingredients, but the process is the same. The sixth one is different. Each formula has its own particular characteristic, which we will mention so that you may choose the most adequate for your work.

DOUGH #1

Characteristics: white and insect resistant.

12 large slices of bread
12 Tbs. white glue
2 Tsp. cold cream
4 Tsp. cornstarch
Juice of 1/2 lemon

DOUGH #2

Characteristics: can be baked

12 large slices bread
12 Tbs. white glue
1 Tsp. glycerine
4 Tsp. cornstarch
Juice of 1/2 lemon

DOUGH #3

Characteristics: Pliable and does not dry so fast.

12 large slices bread
12 Tbs. white glue
2 Tbs. corn oil
2 Tbs. milk

DOUGH #4

Characteristics: matte finish; looks like porcelain.

12 large slices bread
12 Tbs. white glue
1 Tsp. vinegar
1/2 Tsp. white acrylic paint

DOUGH #5

Characteristics: Does not need to be refrigerated.

12 large slices bread
24 Tbs. YU migajon (mexican glue)

How to make the preceding recipes:

Take crust off bread. Shake slices to make sure all crust crumbs are off. Add other ingredients in the recipe you choose. Knead until soft and it does not stick to your hands. Wash hands well and use cold cream; continue to knead.

Store in plastic baggies. If dough gets to dry, add more glue. If it gets too soft, add more bread.

DOUGH #6

Characteristics: good for flowers with more movement, such as daisies, lilies, and orchids.

3/4 Cup white glue
1 Cup corn starch
1/2 cup water
1 Tsp. glycerin
1 Tsp. cream
1 egg white

Place all ingredients, except egg white, in double boiler. Stir constantly until it forms a paste.

Place paste on level surface sprinkled with cornstarch. Add egg white and mix thoroughly.

Optional

To any recipe add formaldehyde or benzoate as a preservative.

MIGAJON

Migajón art entails the forming of figures with balls of bread dough made by squeezing and kneading ordinary white sandwich bread with white glue. As a result, the migajón acquires a consistency that resembles soft clay to which tempera paint can be added. After the figure is finished, it is allowed to dry at room temperature until it obtains a hardness resembling that of porcelain.

Migajón art is a domestic or home art that is practiced almost exclusively by women. Favorite themes include baskets of fruits and flower arrangements which can be made life-sized or in miniature. Migajón ornaments can be used as personal or house decorations. At times, the migajón artist is called upon to fashion special bouquets and traditional white lazos that are used during wedding ceremonies and have been known to last for many generations.

Mrs. Ofelia Sanchez was born in the state of Michoacan and currently lives in West Covina. Although she is self-taught, she has become very skilled at creating sculptures of objects that appear to be real. Some people even attempt to smell the life-like flowers and taste the fruit that she molds.

Mrs. Sanchez was selected to exhibit at the 1984 Olympic Arts Festival, and has subsequently exhibited at other folk art festivals in southern California. Apart from being an accomplished artist, Mrs. Sanchez is an excellent teacher who is eager to pass on her knowledge to others.

--notes by Miguel Dominguez

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