

**1301-2**

Mark Nelson demonstrates how to use bronze metal clay to make house numbers. He adds a vintage patina using products from Rio Grande.

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**Guest:**



**Mark Nelson**

# Hacienda Numbers



## steps:

### Create your templates

1. Draw the numbers needed by hand onto thick paper or cardstock, or print them with a computer. Choose numbers that have smooth edges and aren't too thin. Your numbers should be approximately 4" (10cm) tall.
2. Use scissors to cut out each template.

### Form your numbers

3. Place a large lump of BRONZclay™ on your prepared work surface. Use the rolling pin to roll a slab that is 10-cards thick. Roll one slab for each number in the address.
4. Use a texture sheet or a mold sprayed with Cool Slip to add texture to the surface of the clay slabs.
5. Position one number template onto the textured clay. Use a craft knife to cut out the number. Repeat this step to cut out all numbers in the address.
6. Let the clay dry naturally. Be careful when moving your pieces, tears and cracks can become defects while firing.
7. Use dividers and wax tools to carve a decorative edge on your numbers. Get creative! Use an emery file to gently sand the edges of the numbers. Use 400-grit sandpaper to get into any tight corners or angles.
8. Determine where to place two holes per house number, and use a permanent marker to mark these locations for drilling. Drill with an appropriate sized drill bit for the mounting nails. The mounting hardware for the numbers will be inserted through these holes. You may need to re-drill the holes after firing.

### Fire your pieces

9. Position the BRONZclay™ numbers vertically in the activated coconut shell-based carbon. Fire the clay in the kiln using the long firing schedule (Ramp at 250°F/hr. to 1550°F. Hold for 3 hours. Total firing time is about 9 hours.)

### Finish your numbers

10. Finish the numbers as desired (patina or polish to a high shine) and then hang them with small mounting nails.

## supplies:

Order #	Description
550-712	Bronze Metal Clay by Yvonne M. Padilla
101-007	100g BRONZclay™ metal clay
111-579	Rio BRONZclay™ tool kit
111-567	Rio PMC® work surface
111-455	Texture sheets, 4 styles, Set D
111-448	Cool Slip spray
111-458	Slik balm
700-278	Wax carving tool set
116-171	Starrett divider
703-117	Rio PMC® kiln
703-206	Stainless steel firing pan
703-205	Coconut shell-based activated carbon
335-021	No Name patina prep
335-120	MIDAS® green patina solution
—	1/8" drill bit or appropriate size
—	Mounting nails
—	Sand paper/emery file



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