



## Crazy for Cabochons!

*syndee holt*

### Supplies:

- Sculpey III or Premo! Sculpey in colors of your choice (3) to make the blend (I used Ultramarine Blue/White 1:1, Wasabi and Leaf Green (about ½ package each)
- Sculpey Clay Conditioning Machine
- Sculpey Super Slicer blade
- Commercial flexible mold (mine is from Penni Jo's Best Flexible Molds: <http://www.bestflexiblemolds.com/>) -OR-
- A metal cutter in the shape you wish, several sheets of plain paper -OR-
- A large clay-dedicated spoon

### **Have on Hand:**

- Small spray bottle of water and a couple of paper towels
- Texture stamp or small canes to decorate cabochon surface(optional)
- Pearl Ex powders (optional) for surface treatments

### **BASIC MOLD USE:**

1. Wipe the mold out to remove any dust or clay residue. Roll a small ball of clay that you estimate will fill the mold. Wipe the mold with a wet paper towel to leave a thin coat of water (acts as mold release so the clay won't stick). Immediately put the ball of clay in the mold and use your thumbs to spread the clay into the mold.



*Illustration 3: basic 2*

2. Use the Super Slicer blade to CAREFULLY cut off the excess clay. I find a light sawing motion works best.
3. Carefully remove the clay



*Illustration 2: basic 3a*

from the mold and you should have a perfectly molded cab!

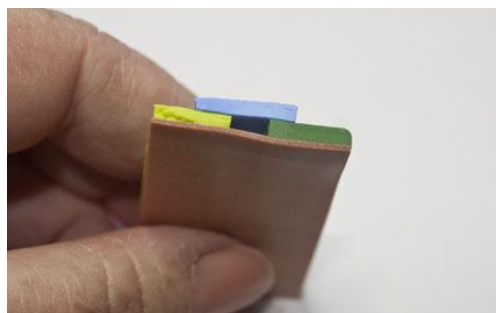
### TO MAKE THE BLENDED WATERCOLOR CAB:

4. Roll a small amount of each of your three colors out on the #1 (widest) setting on the Sculpey Clay Conditioning Machine. Cut small rectangles of each color about 3 inches long and ½ inch wide. Place these rectangles together, overlapping each color as shown.



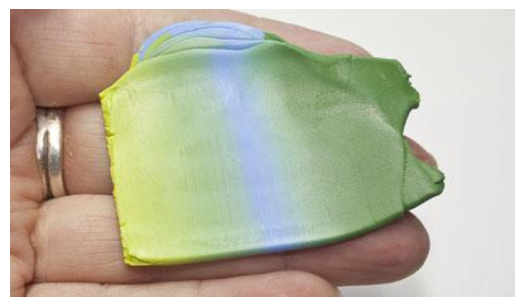
*Illustration 4: blended 1*

5. I added a thinner sheet of Premo! Gold clay to add a little warm sheen to the blend.



*Illustration 5: blended 2*

6. Press the clay firmly together and roll the narrow end of the clay assembly through the Clay Conditioning Machine (on the #1 setting). Fold the bottom narrow end up to



*Illustration 6: blended 3*

meet the top narrow end and put the fold into the machine and roll through again. Repeat this process until smooth to your

- 7.
8. Set the Clay Conditioning Machine on #5 and roll the narrow end of the blend again to get a sheet of the blend. Make a

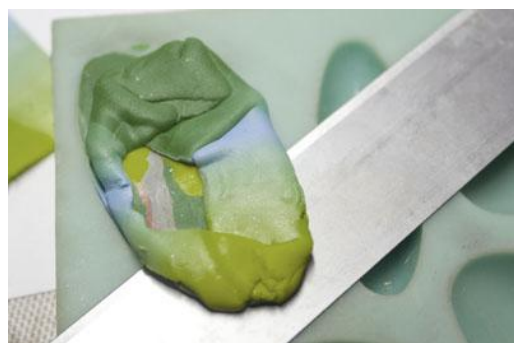


*Illustration 7: blended 4*

in steps 1-3 and lay the thin sheet of blend across the top ("shop" for the area you like the best!) and trim, leaving a selvage all around the cab. Place the cab with the sheet of clay on top, back into the moistened mold and press down slightly.

the blend is satisfaction.

Machine on #5 through the longer, thinner basic cab as show



*Illustration 9: blended 6*

9. Wrap the excess edges of clay around the back of the cab and use your Super Slicer to carefully remove the excess clay.



*Illustration 8: blended 5*

10. Remove the cab and you have a beautiful watercolor cab!



*Illustration 10: blended cab final*

## TO MAKE A CAB USING A CUTTER:

1. Make 3 #1 layers of clay in your selected color. You can texture the top layer if you wish.
2. Put a sheet of clean white paper across the top and put your cutter into place. Put a hard surface (like a piece of wood) on top of the cutter and push straight down. The paper will tear. Remove the cutter and the torn paper and you will have a rounded image of the cutter.



*Illustration 11: cab with cutter 1*



*Illustration 12: cab with cutter 2*

3.



*Illustration 13: cab with cutter 3*

## TO MAKE A CAB WITH A SPOON:

1. Roll a ball of clay and press into the pre-moistened spoon. Spread the clay with your fingers to the size and shape you wish.



*Illustration 14: spoon 1*

2.



*Illustration 15: spoon 2*



*Illustration 16: spoon 3*