Groovy Cuffs (Mokume Gane Technique)

Polymer clay mokume gane is an extremely popular polymer clay technique that creates elegant and sophisticated patterns yet is surprisingly easy to do. It is an adaptation of mokume gane, a very beautiful and difficult 17th-century Japanese decorative metal working technique. The polymer clay mokume technique inspired by this ancient form of decorative metalworking is easy enough that even someone who has only beginner clay skills can achieve extraordinary, unique, patterned veneers even on the first try.

In polymer clay mokume, contrasting color polymer clay sheets are layered and then compressed to laminate them permanently into a solid polymer clay billet. Then the billet is distorted in one of many possible ways,

Materials: Polymer Clay, Pre-made Channel Cuffs

Tools: Toaster Oven, Dedicated Pasta Machine, Tissue Blade, X-acto Knife, Ceramic Tile, Clay Roller or Brayer, Stamping Texture Sheets, Tools for poking and depressing clay,

- STEP 1: Condition, Roll Out, and Trim the Polymer Clay Sheets
- STEP 2: Stack and Compress the Polymer Clay Layers (4 layers)
- STEP 3: Halve, Stack, and Compress the Layers Again (8 layers)
- STEP 4: Halve, Stack, and Compress the Layers Again (16 layers)
- STEP 5: Manipulate the clay by poking with various tools or punches, rolling with textured sheet and compressing the billet.
- STEP 6: Insert the clay into the Pre-Made Cuff and trim the excess.
- STEP 7: Slice the clay to reveal the pattern. It's Essential to Use a Very Sharp Blade for Slicing Polymer Clay.
- STEP 7: Cure the Polymer Clay in a Preheated Oven using a Reliable Oven Thermometer to Monitor the Oven Temperature. Even, Accurate Temperature at the degree and time designated by the polymer clay manufacturer are Key to Curing Polymer Clay Properly for Strength and Durability.