Magic Hinge Box Instructions - 4/19/2012

All pictures are taken from video instructions that are available for viewing on product page of website.

Common starting instructions for either hinge part

1. Lubricate mold parts grey, blue, white and pink.

**When making pinned hinge parts it is recommended to apply a lot of lubricant to grey and pink layer holes. This will make separation very easy even when clay is wet without braking little pins.

2. Snap white layer onto pink layer. With all layers assemble so indented sides of layers are aligned.

3. Roll out clay snake to 3.5mm thick using optional premeasure roller or snake roller from your tools.

4. Cut about a 4mm section out of snake.

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5. Place this section into white layer hole. You may have to taper one end of clay with fingers to fit in hole as cutting usually “pinches” clay out of round.

6. Snap blue layer onto white layer.

7. Now press grey layer into blue layer without twisting.

8. Using a clamp or your hands firmly compress all layers together. Clamp is really recommended and will not damage box.

9. Clean out excess clay that extruded from holes on either side of box. You can use a pointed tool to get majority out. Using optional extrusion cleaner clean out any other excess inside and create clean edge on smaller hole inside. This can also be accomplished with similar shaped tool from your bench.

***From this point the instructions branch out depending on what part you want to make***

For the hollow hinge part.
1. Snap drill bit guide on pink or grey side. While you can drill through without the drill bit guide you shouldn’t. It is designed to keep the angle of drill bit straight so box is not damaged.

2. Using the provided drill bit hand twist the drill bit through wet clay till it comes out other side. Literally remove the drill bit from the other side from you started so it makes full pass through box.

3. Using a coin separate layers.

4. Place white layer with clay inside to dry. Careful not to let clay fall out.

5. After it is dry reassemble box with drill bit guide and hand twist drill bit through box again. This is to compensate for any shrinkage that may have occurred during drying.

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6. Clean excess clay on either side of white layer and remove hollowed hinge.

For the pinned hinge part.

1. For this it is imperative that you make sure the both holes are clean of excess clay on either side. If you do not the pins make break off when separating layers.

2. Separate layers with coin but leave blue and white together. Place to dry blue side down. You can put on hot plate if you want.

3. When dry remove any excess clay from layers.

4. Remove hinge part.

Some General Tips
When making both hollowed hinge and pinned hinge parts start with your pinned hinges first. That way if you break off pins accidently you can just drill it and make hollowed hinge instead.

Fresh clay is always the way to go if possible.

If hinge comes out not completely formed then use more clay when loading box. You can always extrude extra out but you never add after.

The optional add-ons (premeasure roller and extrusion cleaner specifically) are not mandatory but were developed specifically to create a repeatable system that gives you consistent results.

Email us at sales@metalclays.com if you need help.