

Homemade Playdough

Arts | Crafts



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WHAT MAKES IT MEANINGFUL

Playdough is a soft, moldable material that can be shaped and formed into various objects (National Museum of Play). It's often used as a tool for creative play, allowing individuals to express their imagination by making different shapes, figures, and designs. Playing with playdough is meaningful because it helps develop fine motor skills, encourages creativity, and provides a tactile sensory experience (NAEYC). It also promotes problem-solving as children figure out how to create what they envision.

TIME

10-15 minutes of craft. Unlimited play!

MATERIALS

- Measuring Cups
- 2.5 cups water
- 1 1/4 cup salt (\$5+ for full container)
- 1 1/2 tablespoon cream of tartar (\$4+ for full bottle)
- 5 tablespoons of vegetable oil (\$10+ for full bottle)
- 2.5 cup flour (all purpose is preferred and wheat flour will also work) (\$3+ for full bag)
- Food colouring (\$4+)
- Ziplock Bag or Tupperware



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INSTRUCTIONS

1. **Mix It Up:** Toss all the ingredients (except the food coloring) into a big pot. Stir until it looks a bit lumpy—that's okay! The dough will get smoother once it cooks.
2. **Cook the Dough:** Place the pot on the stove over low heat and stir often. As it cooks, the mixture will start looking sticky like dough. Keep stirring until the edges look dry. Pinch a little piece—if it's not sticky, you're good to go!
3. **Color Your Dough:** Put the dough on a countertop or board. Knead it until it's smooth, then divide it into however many colors you want. Flatten each piece, add some food coloring, and knead it in.
4. **Play and Store:** Now you can play with your colorful dough! When you're done, store it in a Ziplock bag or container, and it'll last for months of fun!

RESOURCES

- [Playdough Power | NAEYC](#).
- [Play-Doh - The Strong National Museum of Play](#)
- [The Best Homemade Playdough Recipe \(Super Soft, Lasts For Months\) - TinkerLab](#)

*all prices are estimated from item listings on *Amazon*

SUPPORTS NEEDED

Some individuals may need assistance with kitchenware and cooking the ingredients. Make sure all kitchen work is supervised.

OTHER THINGS TO NOTE

While all the ingredients are edible and safe for consumption after cooking, it is not recommended to eat the dough after playing, as the dough may get dirty.