

Handout - Slabbing Project

Take This



Mound of wedged clay

Make This



Slabbed house

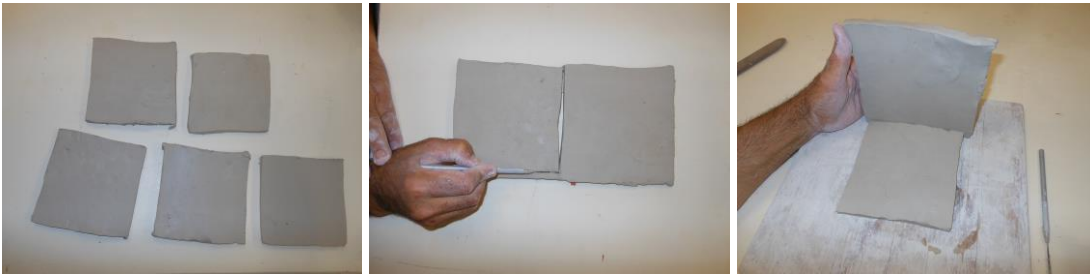
Read

Material and Preparation: Slab enough clay to cut out all the structural pieces. Make 2 $\frac{3}{8}$ " slabs a little more than 8" by 8" each. Using the needle tool cut out eight (8) $\frac{3}{8}$ " – 4" by 4" squares. For the front and back of the roof, cut one of these squares diagonally in half, creating two triangles. The edges of these triangles will need to be trimmed to sit on the sides of the house. Use one of the 4" by 4" squares for the floor (this piece will need to be trimmed so the wall can butt-up to each other) and 4 others for the sides of the house and roof.

Tools: Use a larger project board or bat to build your house on. Other tools needed are: needle tool, water, sponge, sculpting tools, ribs, paper towels and a banding wheel.



Tools, project board etc.



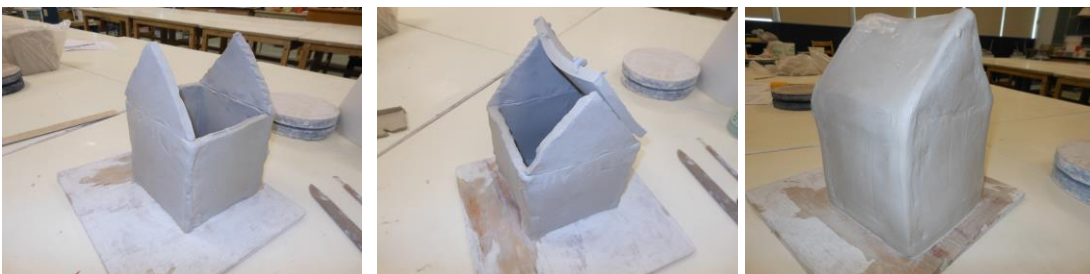
Pieces of clay what will be needed to construct the house

Attaching slabs of clay: Any surface that will be joined must first be scratched and wet. Press one wall to the floor. Trim off some clay on the floor to allow the wall to fit and leave space for the adjacent wall. During this process use paper towels, project boards, or small pieces of clay to keep the structure upright. After the walls have been pressed together, compress the seams with a sculpting tool.



Two surfaces being joined Holding first wall in place as you add more walls. Compressing the joints.

Attaching the roof: Attach the two triangle pieces to the top, front and back. Scratch and wet down the attaching surfaces with a needle tool and wet sponge before attaching. Attach the two sides of the roof: the sides may want to bend in (if so, put wadded up paper towels inside the house to hold them in place). These paper towels can be left inside and will turn to ash during the bisque fire. Use the same scratching, wetting, pressing and compressing technique to attach the sides of the roof. After all the joints have been compressed, smooth them out with a rib, sculpting tool and/or wet sponge. Now build and add a chimney using the same attaching techniques.



Building the basic house



Building and adding a chimney

Cutting the door and windows: The clay should be leather-hard before cutting out the door and windows. If it is still wet, let it dry by sitting the house out in the sun or leaving it overnight covered with plastic. Use a needle tool to penetrate through the walls and cut out the windows and door. Spray the entire house and smooth out the surfaces with a wet sponge to help seal the seams.



Cutting out the front door and windows. Spraying the house to seal seams.

Design: Complete the project by attaching and sculpting details to the house (add gutters, windowsills, roof tiles, bricks, etc.)



Adding design detail to the house

Watch – the Video.

Do – This is when students put what they have learned into action.