

Salt Dough Christmas Ornaments

Recipe: 5 cups white all purpose flour
1 cup salt
1 tablespoon mustard (powder or prepared)
2 cups water

Mix flour + salt in large bowl. Add Mustard and water, stir, then knead with hands into a smooth workable dough. Form into large balls, wrap tightly in plastic and store in fridge overnight. Only good for a few days before it gets too sticky, then becomes necessary to add some more flour.

Place finished ornaments on foil covered baking sheet. Push a twisted wire hanger into the top end of the ornament and then poke the ornament in a few places with a straight pin (to prevent uneven rising).

Bake ornaments at 275°F for 3 hours, turn oven off, leave ornaments in the oven until it cools off completely.

Paint with any paints (tempra + folk art paints work well). Let ornaments dry for a while or put in slightly warm oven (100°F) for an hour to dry up any remaining moisture.

Varnish ornaments

Tip - We find dipping the entire ornament in a can of 'polyurethane' then hanging it up with a paper clip over some newspapers, this works best for us. Touch up drips with a brush. When dry, dip again. When dry, sign name + date on back with a permanent fine tip marker.

To store until next Christmas, wrap ornaments lightly in tissue paper + store in box in linen closet (never in basement or garage - since the dough attracts moisture + mice)



Salt Dough Christmas Ornaments

Recipe

5 cups white all purpose flour
1 cup salt
1 tablespoon mustard (powder or prepared)
2 cups water

Mix flour and salt in large bowl. Add mustard and water, stir, then knead with hands into a smooth workable dough. Add more flour if too sticky. Shape into large balls, wrap tightly on plastic wrap and store in fridge overnight. The dough is only good for a few days, then gets too sticky, and it becomes necessary to add more flour.

Shape ornaments, and place on foil covered baking sheets. Push a twisted wire hanger into the top end of the ornament, and then poke the ornament in a few places with a straight pin to prevent uneven rising.

Bake ornaments at 275 F for three hours, turn oven off, and leave ornaments in oven until it completely cools off.

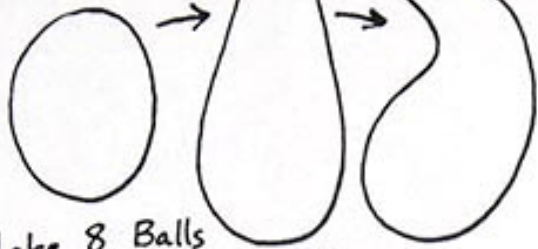
Paint with any paints. I used Fold Art acrylics. Let ornaments dry completely. There must be no moisture left in them before varnishing.

To protect the ornaments and give them a nice shine, we varnish them with a polyurethane varnish. We found that dipping the entire ornament in the can of varnish worked best. Then we would hang the ornament by a paper clip over some newspaper to catch any drips. After a half hour or so, go back with a brush to remove any drip formations. After the varnish has dried, dip them a second time.

To store until next Christmas, wrap ornaments in tissue paper and store in boxes in a dry closet in the main part of your home. Never store in the basement or garage, since the dough ornaments will attract moisture – and mice.

Elf Wreath

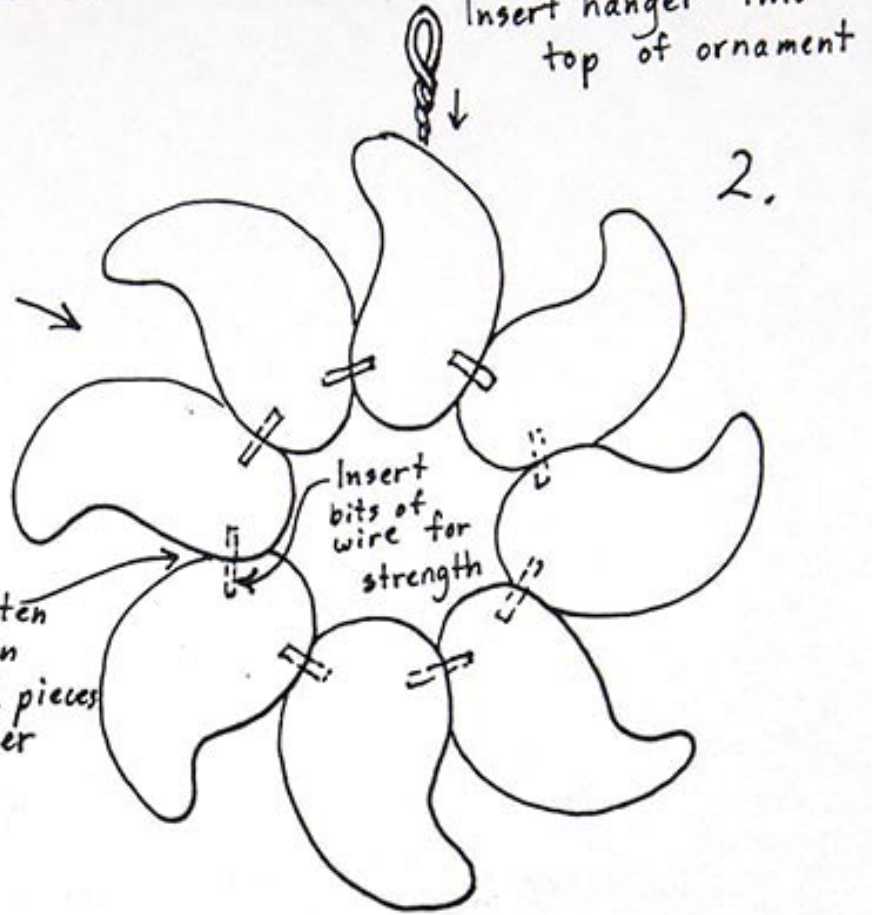
1.



Make 8 Balls Exactly the Same size

Shape

2.

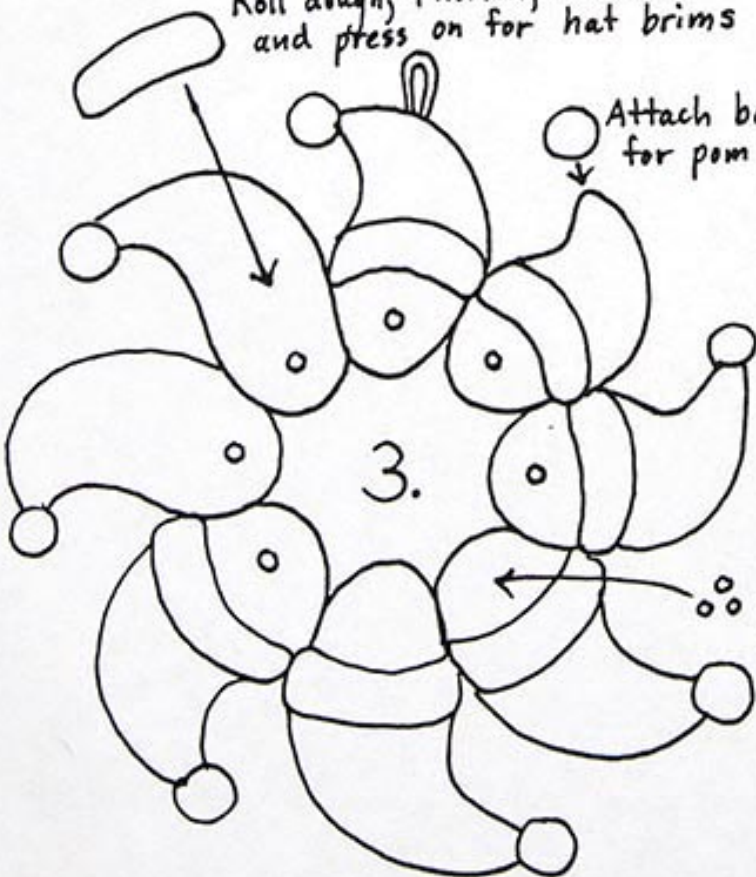


slightly moisten dough when sticking 2 pieces together

Insert bits of wire for strength

Insert hanger into top of ornament

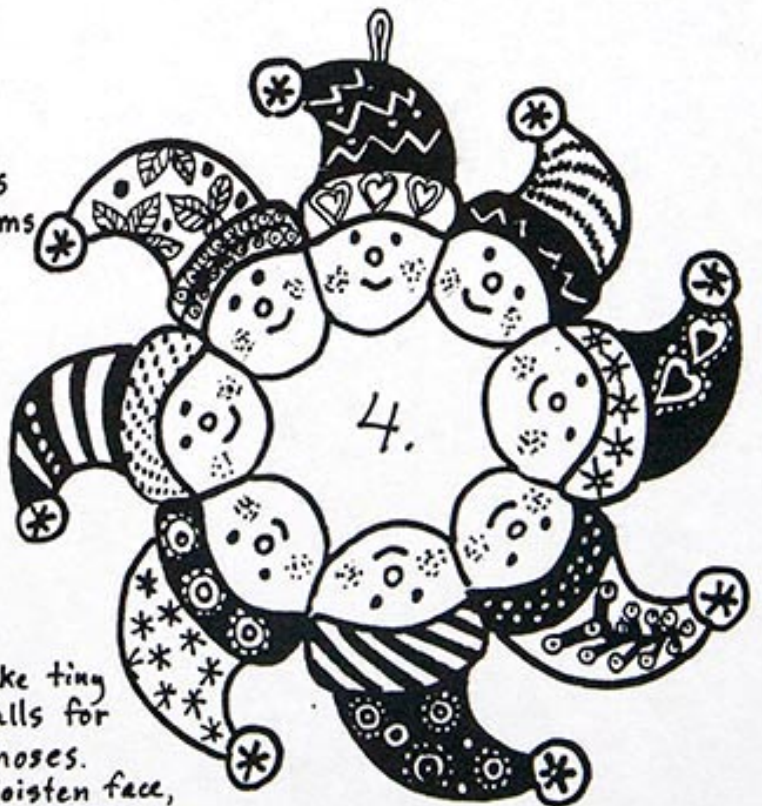
Roll dough, flatten, moisten and press on for hat brims



Attach balls for pom poms

3.

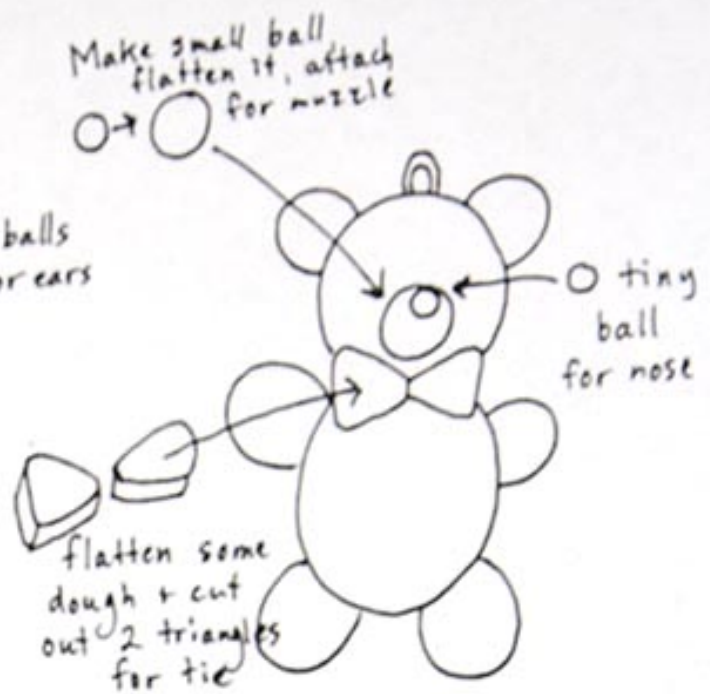
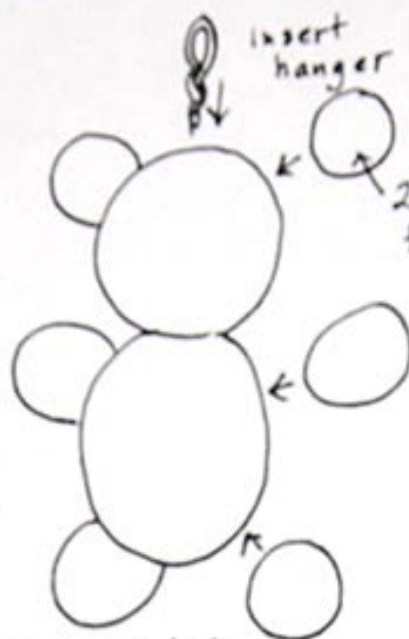
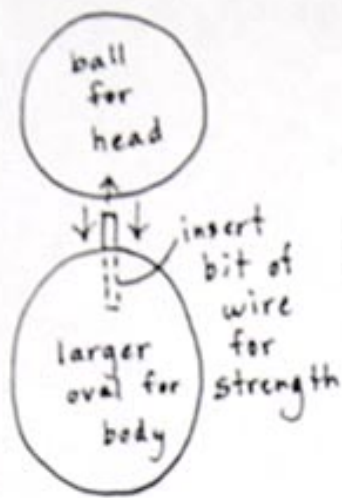
Make tiny balls for noses. Moisten face, press nose on lightly



4.

Paint + Varnish

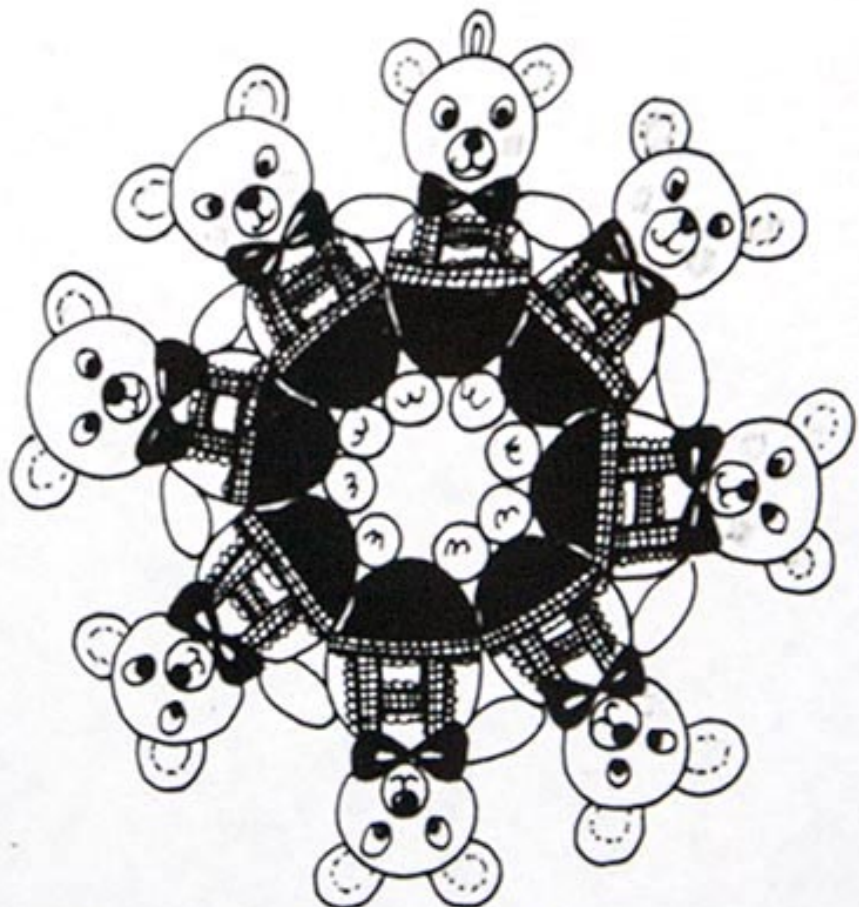
Teddy Bear



Make 4 balls, moisten + press onto body



Paint, Varnish

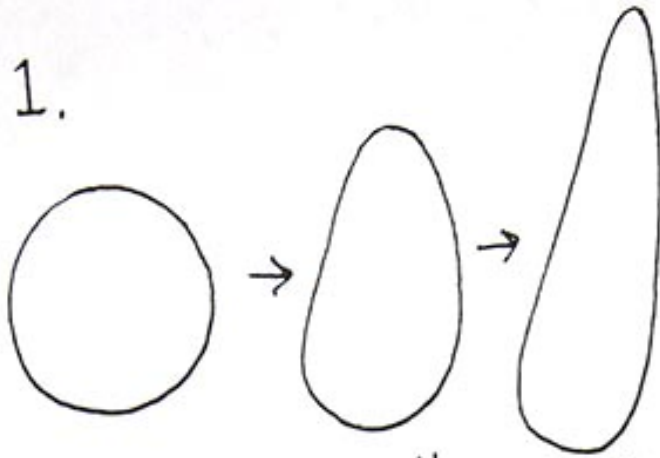


Variation: try a teddy bear wreath



Angels

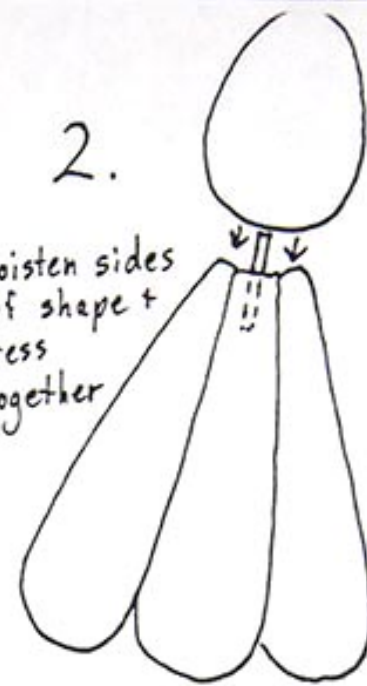
1.



Make 3 balls exactly the same size, then shape ↗

2.

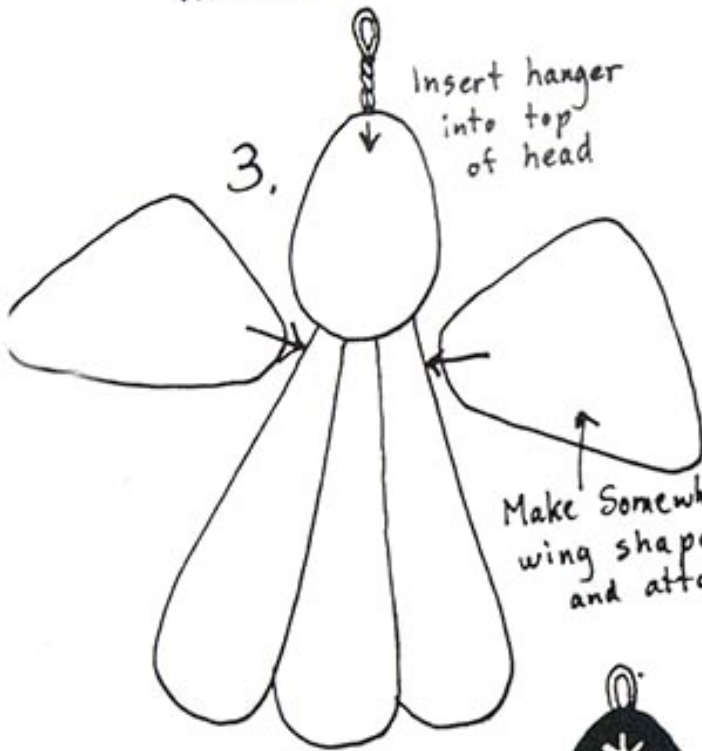
Moisten sides of shape + press together



form head
moisten base
+ attach with
small wire
in between

3.

Insert hanger into top of head



Make somewhat flattened wing shapes, moisten edge and attach to body

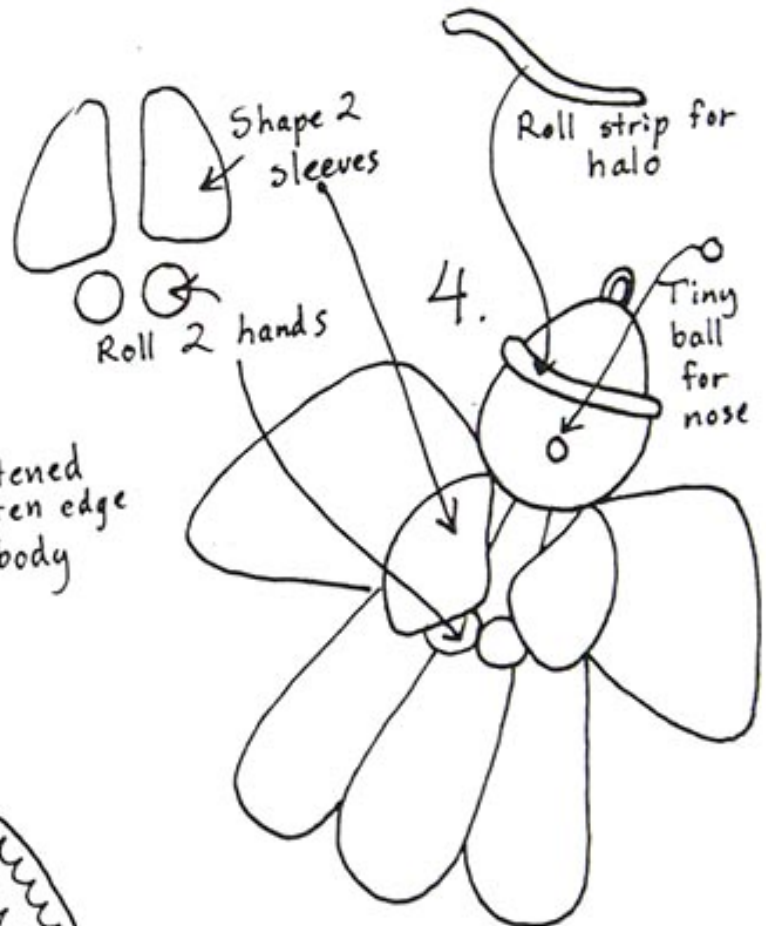
Shape 2 sleeves

Roll 2 hands

4.

Roll strip for halo

Tiny ball for nose



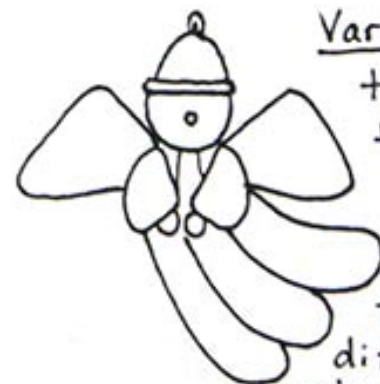
5.



Bake,
Paint,
Varnish

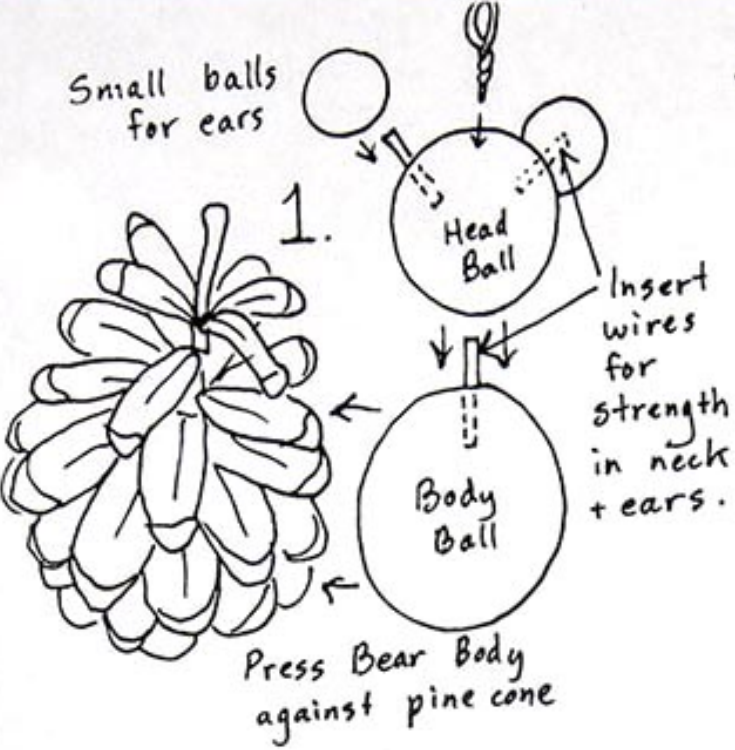
Variation

try bending the body shapes in step 2 for a different shaped skirt

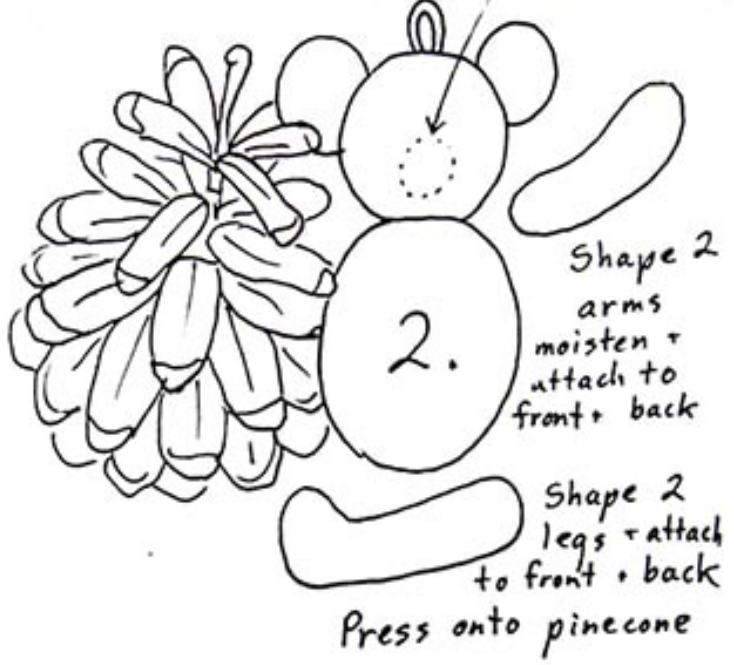


Pinecone Bear

Small balls for ears

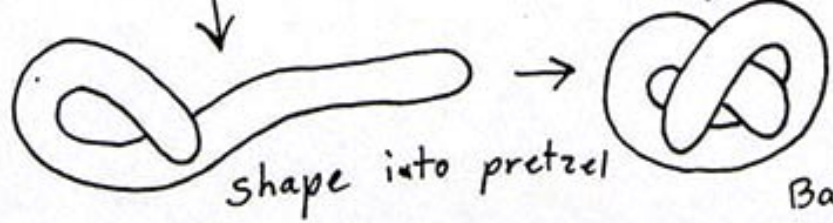
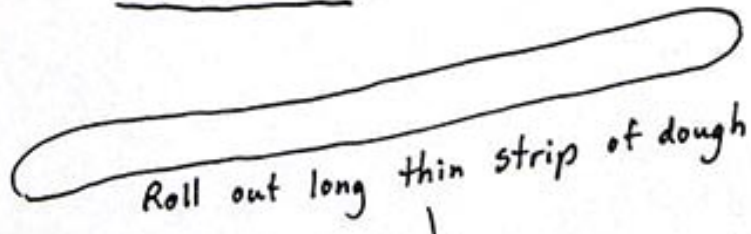


Small ball flatten for muzzle



Bake, Paint, Varnish, then tie ribbon bow around neck.

Pretzel



Insert hanger



Bake, Paint, Varnish