This adorable Valentine's Day bangle by Tali Iserles from Tallulah does the Hula combines sweet pastels with funky sparkle and vivid hues. Windows showcasing feature beads are nestled in between super stripes to create a fun-unusual 'eye candy' bangle.

Ever wondered how to get that 'window' effect in a coloured resin bangle? Jewellery designer Tallulah does the Hula has simplified the process, using gorgeous specialist resins, glass beads – and plasticene. The result is an unusual, eye catching bangle. Why not make some as gifts and keep one for yourself? You could use this technique to make a variation of window effects in your resin bangles, using block colours, stripes and any number of 'windows'. Your window displays could feature glass beads, gemstones, charms, crystals, dried flowers, pearls, plastic miniatures – the only limit is your imagination! Have fun, experiment and enjoy.
Intermediate Project

GATHER THESE SUPPLIES

- Resin8 silicone bangle mould
- Standard resin and hardener
- Low viscosity hardener
- Pink pearl resin
- Lilac sparkle resin
- Pink E opaque colour paste
- Red fluorescent colour paste
- Sulphur-free plasticine
- 6 x 8mm glass beads

TOOLS REQUIRED

A wooden mixing stick, a cocktail stick, a set of electronic scales, at least two mixing pots (eg empty yogurt pots), large acrylic block, wet and dry sandpaper.

USEFUL INFORMATION

Use an empty yogurt pot on top of electronic scales to weigh your resin. If the resin is too thick after it's been measured out, mix it inside another bowl containing hot water from the tap for several minutes. This will also help eliminate air bubbles.

Step 1

Using your hands, shape your sulphur-free plasticine into six rectangles, measuring approximately 10cm by 12 cm by 8cm. These do not have to be perfect but they do have to be fitted snugly inside your bangle mould.

Step 2

Insert your plasticine rectangles into your bangle mould, ensuring that the rectangles are evenly spaced apart. Ensure that the rectangles fit snugly into your mould. You can use the mixing stick to flatten the plasticine.

Step 3

Weigh out 3g resin and add 1.5g standard hardener. Using your mixing stick, add a small pat of Pink E opaque colour paste to the mixture and mix well. Pour a thin layer into the mould.

Step 4

Once the first layer has at least partly cured, you are ready to mix together the next stripe. It's time to get glittery! Weigh out 3g lilac sparkle resin and add 1.5g low viscosity hardener. Mix well and pour into the mould.

CUT THE COST

Glass beads, sequins and plastic figurines are affordable alternatives to gemstones and crystals and can look equally impressive inside a display window. Flowers, berries and leaves cost nothing if you pick them in season!

www.resin.co.uk
Intermediate Project

Once the top layer has at least partly cured, it's time to get pretty in pink and bring out the pearls. Pink pearl resin, that is. Weigh out 3g of the resin and mix together with 1.5g low viscosity hardener. Pour a thin layer into your mould, leaving some space at the top, and leave to cure in a warm, dust-free place.

Once the layers have fully cured, carefully push the plasticine and resin sections out of the bangle mould. Try to remove the plasticine but don't worry too much about residue as this can be cleaned up later. Any plasticine that's in a good condition can be put in a sealable bag and reused.

Run your resin sections under a tap and wash off plasticine residue with hand wash or washing up detergent. Sand off rough edges on the ends of your resin sections with sandpaper, starting off with rough grade paper (eg 120) and finishing off with fine paper (eg 400). Using wet sandpaper inside a tray filled with water will eliminate dust.

DID YOU KNOW?

You can press flowers in minutes using two plates, paper towels and a microwave. Pop paper towels onto one plate and place your flowers as flat as possible on top. Carefully add more paper towels and put the second plate on top. Insert into the microwave for 30 seconds at a time, until the flowers have fully dried.

DESIGNER SECRET

Sulphur-free plasticene is an excellent moulding tool and unlike regular plasticene, it doesn't react with resin. You can also use it to create ‘windows’ in resin bangles and to stop resin from dripping down the side of your project once you have domed it. When you have finished with the plasticene, just carefully peel it off and reuse it!

Place the resin sections back in the bangle mould, ensuring that they are evenly spaced out. Place an 8mm glass bead in the gap between each resin section. Mix together standard resin and hardener and pour it in between the resin sections to create ‘windows’. Ensure that the resin in the clear segments is at roughly the same level as the stripy sections. Once the clear resin has slightly cured, you may need to use a cocktail stick to move the beads into the middle of each window if they have changed position. When the clear layer has fully cured you may need to apply another thin layer to ensure that it is level with the stripy sections.
Once the clear resin has cured, mix together 4g of standard resin and 2g of standard hardener. Using your mixing stick, add a small pat of red fluorescent colour paste to the mixture and mix well. Pour a thin layer into the top of the mould, ensuring that it covers both the stripy and clear sections of cured resin. Once it has fully cured, remove the bangle from your mould and sand the top to get rid of any rough edges.

Pop the bangle onto a block with the sanded bit facing up. Roll the plasticine into two long, thin strips and wrap them around the bangle, ensuring that the bangle is completely covered on both sides. This both secures the bangle onto the board and stops drips during the doming process from ruining the rest of your bangle! Now mix 4g of standard resin and 2g of standard hardener and add a dab of Pink E opaque colour paste. Mix well and thinly layer across the top of your bangle. This will create a coloured dome.

Carefully sand both sides of your bangle to get rid of rough edges. It’s best to do this using wet sand paper, starting with a rough grade (eg 120) and graduating to a fine grade (eg 400). Mix together a small amount of standard resin and hardener and dome one end by spreading a thin layer across the top. Once the dome has cured, flip the bangle over and dome the other end. Your Windows of Wonder bangle is now complete! Enjoy!

DESIGNER PROFILE

Kia ora! My jewellery creations are inspired by my passion for sun, sea and surf. A journalist turned jewellery designer, my pieces are influenced by my time in New Zealand. Now back in the UK, I try to recreate my love for nature (with a bit of sparkle thrown in) in my designs.
Intermediate Project

VARIATION

FOUND TREASURE BANGLE

Make two thin rectangles out of plasticine and space them out inside the bangle mould. Fill the larger area (a space measuring about two-thirds of your mould) with a block colour (I’ve used Pink E opaque colour paste mixed together with standard resin and hardener). Once it has cured, pop the resin section out of the mould and remove the plasticine. Sand off rough edges of your section and reinsert it into the mould. Fill the remaining gap with shells, seed beads, fine chain, gemstone chips and glass beads. Pour clear resin over your ‘treasures’, filling the gap. Once your bangle has fully cured, pop it out of the mould, sand off the rough side and apply a thin layer of doming resin on top.

SHOPPING GUIDE

Bangle mould, Standard resin and hardener, Low viscosity hardener, Pink pearl resin, Lilac sparkle resin, Pink E opaque colour paste, Red fluorescent colour paste, sulphur-free plasticine, Wet & Dry sandpaper

Resin8—www.resin8.co.uk—01242 603624

Glass beads – www.mailorder-beads.co.uk - 0115 958 8899

Project written by Tallulah does the Hula on behalf of Resin8 © Resin8 Craft Supplies Ltd 2016

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