

RAINBOW JELLYROLL KEY-RING

by DOTTY MCMILLAN

April 2001



Step One:

You will need about seven small jellyroll canes for this project. Each cane will have translucent wrapped with a different color. You don't need to make large canes for this project.

Roll out the translucent clay on the #1 or largest setting of the pasta machine (approx. 1/8th" thick). Cut a strip that is 1 1/2" wide and 7" long.

Roll out a piece of colored clay on the #6 setting of the pasta machine (quite thin) and cut it to the same size as the translucent clay.

Roll out a narrow sheet of translucent clay and another one the same size in an opaque color.

Step Two:

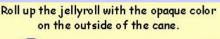
Lay the translucent strip on top of the colored strip and then roll them up together as if you were making an edible jellyroll.

Be sure that the colored strip is on the outside of the roll.

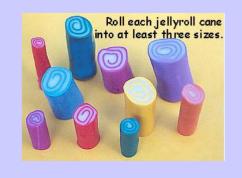
It's a good idea to bevel cut the ends of the combined strips before rolling them. This will make a neater center and a smoother finish on the outside.

Step Three:

Make all seven small canes in the various colors. Roll each of these canes down to three different sizes.







Step Four:

Roll the remaining portion down to 1/4" in diameter and set aside. Once you have done this with each color of opaque clay, you are ready to make your key ring.



Step Five:

Using the white clay, roll out a solid cylinder that is 3/4" in diameter and 11/2" long. This will be shorter and thinner than your finished piece. If you wish to make your fob larger or smaller, now is the time to adjust the white clay, which is your base.

Step Six:

Begin slicing very thin pieces from the largest of your colored jellyroll canes.

Place these cane slices over most all of the white cylinder.

Roll slightly to set the cane slices onto the surface of the white clay.

Arrange the colors in a manner that looks pleasing to you. Overlap some canes slices here and there.



Step Seven:

Slice very thin pieces from the next smaller canes and repeat, placing them onto the cylinder. Do not be afraid to overlap them. Try to cover any of the white clay that is showing.

Slice very thin pieces from the smallest canes and use these to fill in any spots where the white still shows and where the color contrast looks interesting.



Step Eight:

Roll your cane-covered cylinder on a piece of glass or other very smooth surface. It helps to use another smooth piece of glass, Plexiglas, or metal instead of your hand. If the cylinder elongates too much, gently set it on end and press it back into a shorter shape.

Continue doing this until your cylinder has a nice, even, smooth surface.

Step Nine:

Use a needle tool to make a hole through the length of the clay. After using the needle tool, further enlarge the hole with a larger knitting needle.

Finish opening the hole with an even larger knitting needle that will make an opening through which your leather lacing will fit when **doubled**.

Bake and cool.

Step Ten:

Sand and buff the surface of your piece to give it a glass-like shine and depth. This will give the jellyrolls the look of floating over the white clay.

If you don't have a way to machine buff, take extra care with your sanding, and then coat the piece with either Future Floor Finish (about three coats) or Diamond Elite Varathane (one or two coats).

Step Eleven:

Cut a strip of leather lacing that is 12 inches long. Fold it in half. Secure the metal key ring at the folded end as shown in the photograph.

Make a knot in the leather underneath the ring. Thread the two loose ends of the leather through the hole in the fob and pull it through until the knot hits the top of the fob.



Make a knot in the leather at the bottom. The piece is now secured onto the leather.

Load the metal ring with your keys and off you go.





This easy-to-make key ring can, of course, be made with any type of surface decoration, including but not limited to other types of canework, faux jade, ivory or turquoise, a carved and antiqued surface, or be molded and then burnished with mica powders for a metallic look. The possibilities are endless.