

MEDIEVAL TILE MAKING!



YOU WILL NEED:

- ♥ Flour, Salt, and Warmish water
- ♥ Baking paper, and Tray
- ♥ Orange & Black Paint
- ♥ A paintbrush, and Cloth
- ♥ Something to cut around like a coaster
- ♥ Things to make patterns with
- ♥ Optional: PVA glue

1 Mix up your salt dough! It's a ratio of 2:1:1 – so a cup of flour, half a cup of salt, and half a cup of water. Don't worry about getting it bang on, you can add in more water or flour until it looks like this.

We are colouring this orange, to look like terracotta. The easiest way to do that is to squeeze some orange paint (any kind, really) into the warm water before you mix it all together.



2 Whap it out onto a sheet of baking paper. That's really important – you don't want to be trying to scrape it up to get it in the oven later. It will be very sticky, so keep everything well dusted with flour. Use a rolling pin (or a wine bottle!) to roll it to around the thickness of a pound coin.



3 It's really useful to have something to use as a cutting guide, like a coaster. If you don't have one handy then you can try using paper folded into a square. Just make sure that all of the ones you cut out are the same size so they fit together! It will be tempting to fit multiple tiles up close next to each other. However you need them to have space all around them for the next step, so do just one at a time in the middle of your dough! Then pick the dough up, squeeze it back into a ball, and roll it out again for the next tile.



4 Find things to press into the tile to make patterns! I am using a glass to make arches on the corner of each one so they match up in a set. You can use anything though!



5 Trim the baking paper around each tile, and then put them in the oven. They need a long time at a very low temperature – try putting them in after the oven has been used for something else and let them dry out as the oven cools down. You can also put them in the microwave – one at a time, for 30 seconds, checking very closely in between!

6 Once they are dried and cool, carefully peel the baking paper away and use some watered down black paint (any kind, really) to paint in the marks you made. Then water the black paint down even more and scrub/wash it across the tile. Don't forget to pick it up and do the edges! Use a damp cloth to wipe at the surface of the tile and bring it back up to orange. This gives it a great aged look! Leave it for a day or so, to completely dry out, then seal it with PVA glue to make it last longer.

