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Polyform "Uncle Sam" Project

Design by Shelly Comiskey - Project courtesy of sculpey.com

Materials Needed:

- Premo! Sculpey: White, Beige, Blue Pearl, Cadmium Red, Black
- Granitex: bleu

Other supplies:

- Small toothpick flag
- White glue
- Glass seed beads for eyes
- Blush or pink chalk (old paintbrush or applicator to apply)
- Ball stylus
- Needle
- Straight pins or toothpicks (optional use for security when piecing together)
- 3/16" Kemper star cutter (optional)
- 2" of white thread for the wicks on fireworks
- Bunca* thread for the hair



*Bunca thread when unraveled is great for the curly hair. This can be found at a miniature shop.



INSTRUCTIONS:

Step One - Body, Legs and Feet

Shape a 1" ball of Granitex blue into a pear shape.

For his legs take two 3/4" balls of Granitex blue and roll into short logs about 3/4" long. Press to the base of the body. (Press a straight pin in half into the body and the other half into each leg. This will keep the pieces secure.)

Roll two 1/4" balls of Granitex blue about 3/4" long and press flat for the overall straps. Press a small 1/8" ball of white to each end. Indent with a stylus and poke two holes for the buttons. These will be applied later.

Mix 1/2" ball of Granitex blue and 1/2" ball of white until blended. Now pinch in half and flatten with your fingertips. Gently press to the ends of each leg for cuffs.

For the feet, roll two 9/16" balls of black into rounded teardrop shapes. Press these to the end of the cuffs.

Step two - Head, Arms, and Hands

For the arms roll two 3/4" balls of white into tapered logs (carrot shapes). Press each to the shoulders with the smaller end at the top.

Roll two 3/8" balls of beige for the hands and press one at each end for the hands.

Now you can add the overall straps. These are placed over the shoulders so the buttons are in the front.

For the head you may want to use another straight pin or toothpick for security. Just press the straight pin halfway in the body leaving half sticking up for the placement of the head. This will keep the figure secure.

For the head roll a 7/8" ball of beige and place it on the shoulders. Pinch a tiny 1/16" ball of beige and stick to the center of the face for the nose. Press two small 1/8" balls to the sides of the head for the ears. Brush some makeup blush or chalk onto the cheeks. Use the needle to press the eyes (seed beads) in sideways into the face.

Step three - Hat

Press a 3/4" ball of blue pearl flat like a pancake. This is the hat brim. Place this on his head, leaning a bit toward the back.

Roll a 3/4" ball of white and red to about 1/4" thick. Cut off three 1" sections of each roll. Place them side by side in a tight circle alternating red and white.

Gently press and roll the pieces together until smooth. You will then use the X-Acto knife to cut off a piece about 1" long. Place this in the middle of the brim. (Once again you can use a straight pin for security.) Press a small 1/4" ball of blue pearl flat and place to the top of the hat. Now roll a 3/8" ball of blue into a long roll about 1/8" thick and flatten gently with your fingers. This is the hat band. Wrap this around the base of the hat where it meets the hat brim.

With the small 3/16" kemper star cutter you can make stars and place them around the hat band. (optional).

Baking Instructions:

The rule of thumb for baking is: 275 degrees F (130 degrees C) for 30 minutes per 1/4" of thickness for Premo! Sculpey, and 15 minutes per 1/4" of thickness for Granitex. This project has a combination of the clays, so 20 minutes per 1/4" of thickness will be adequate. Always use a timer and check visually frequently to avoid any darkening.

Finishing Touches:

Press the flag in the hand and make the hole before you bake the piece. Remove the flag before baking. For the fireworks roll out small rolls of red, white, and blue. Poke a small hole with a needle in the top of each for the wick. These will also be put in after baking.

After Sam is baked and cooled you can glue the flag and the firework wicks (string) in place. For the hair unravel the Bunca thread, and cut into tiny pieces. With the white glue, dab some glue on the sides of the face, eyebrows and beard. Now press tiny bunches of the cut up thread on the glue and let dry.