



SALT DOUGH TREE DECORATIONS

PREP TIME

30 minutes

YOU WILL NEED

120g plain flour
150g salt
120ml water (or more as needed)
Baking tray
Plastic/metal drinking straw
Acrylic paints
Paintbrush
Ribbon or string
Glitter (optional)
Clear Varnish (optional)

Why not have a go at making your own finger print Christmas tree decorations out of salt dough? Your trees will be unique and beautiful and can be given away as Christmas gifts to your family members. Please supervise children using the oven.

1. Add the salt to the flour in a bowl and mix together.
2. Add the water and mix until it forms a dough. You may need to add more water or flour to form the right consistency, ensuring that it isn't sticky.
3. On a lightly floured worktop, roll out your dough until it is approximately 1cm thick.
4. Using a cutter, stencil or freehand, cut out tree shapes and stars. Use the end of a straw to poke a large hole all the way through the top of the tree.
5. Firmly — but carefully — press your finger into the salt dough to make a fingerprint where baubles would hang on a tree.
6. Carefully place the trees and stars on a baking tray and bake them for 2-3 hours at 125°C, until completely dry. Turn them over once during the cooking process. Leave to cool completely before decorating.
7. Decorate the trees and stars with paint or glitter (try using your fingerprints in the indents!). Leave them to dry completely. Varnish to make it last even longer.
8. Thread the ribbon through the hole you made at the top of the tree. Tie a knot in the two ends of ribbon. Glue on the star to cover the hole, leave to dry.
9. If you're giving it away as a gift, wrap the decoration in colourful tissue paper and pop it carefully in a nice box.