

10 Ceramic Tools to Make or Find Alternatives

Make as many of these as you can. Take a photo of your tools/clay studio and turn it in to the ceramic tools Google Classroom assignment.

1. **Ribs:** These tools are used to smooth and compress the clay.



Use an old gift cards cut trace or draw these shapes on the card cut out and use sandpaper to smooth the edges.



2. **Wooden Modeling Tools;** These come in many different shapes. Try these.



Use popsicle sticks, tongue depressors, chop sticks and wooden dowels to try and make as many different shapes as you can. (See examples above)

Example: Use a popsicle stick or a tongue depressor cut off the end straight on one end and then make an equal sided triangle at the other end.

Ex:



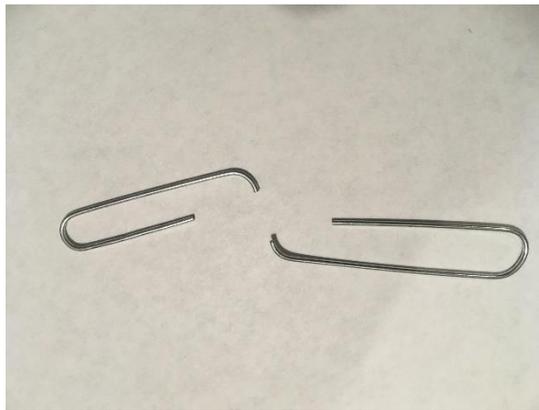
Sand with sandpaper to make smooth.

*If you are lucky enough to have a belt sander or palm sander, just sand down the stick until you get the shape you want. Ask an adult for help if you have never used this tool.

3. **Loop Tools;** These tools are used to carve out clay forms and carve designs into leather hard clay. They come in different shapes, but you will only need the one shown.



Use a pencil or dowel, Duct tape and a large paper clip.



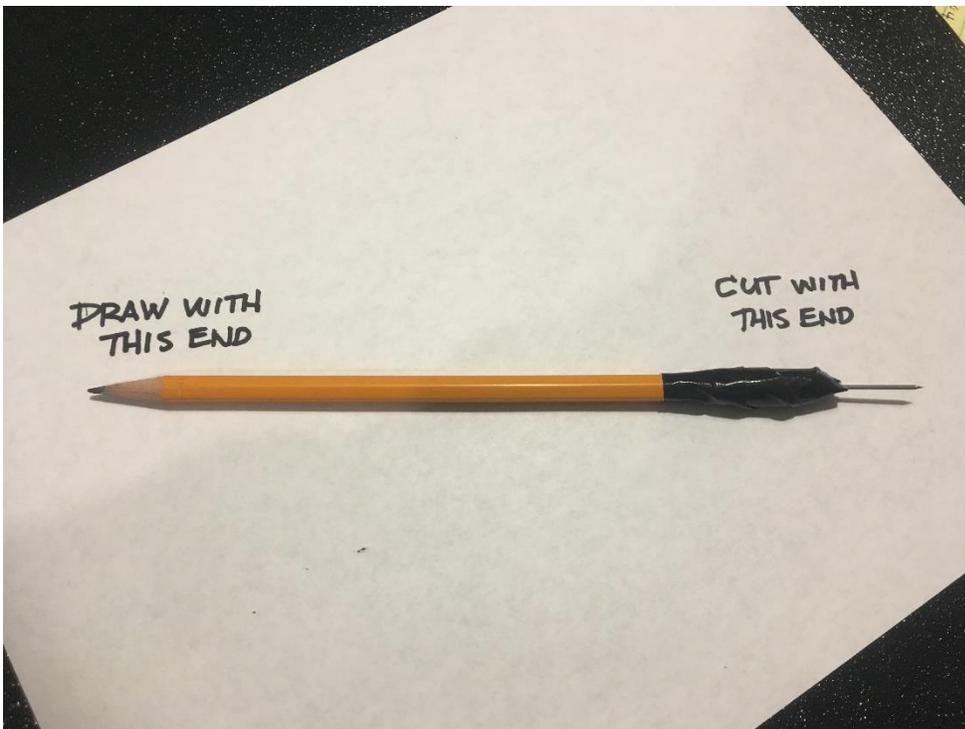
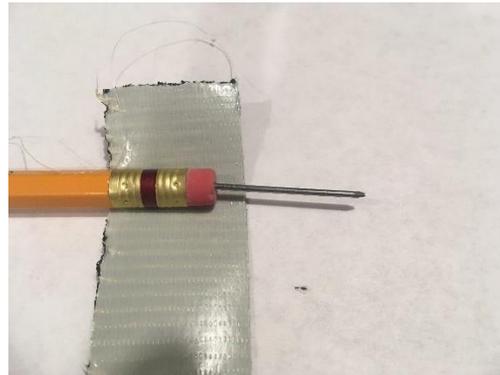
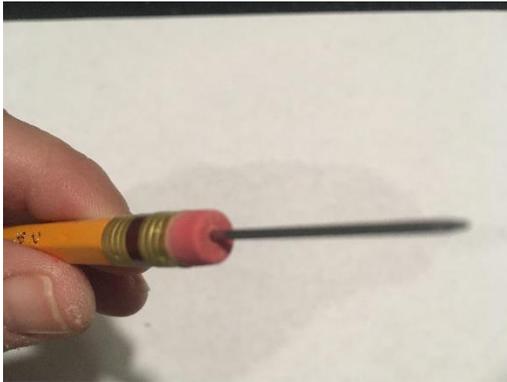
4. **Needle Tool**; Use to cut clay NOT used to draw in the clay.



You will need a pencil, thin long nail (Wire Brad)/ size 18 x1 1/4 (I have these for you if you do not have one) duct tape.



Poke the eraser with the sharp end of the nail several times so you can stick the flat end of the nail in the eraser. Please be careful when creating tools!



5. **Wire Cutter:** these tools are used to cut pieces off a large block of clay.



Ms. Garwood will provide heavy duty fishing line in your clay kit for you cut clay.

6. **Knife Tool;** this tool is used to cut clay particularly leather hard.



Silverware (metal or plastic) are good alternatives for the knife tool.

7. **Clay Paddle:** Used to shape and compress clay.



Again, hard to make but good alternatives are wooded spoons or paint stir sticks.



I like this shape.



8. Canvas Covered Board; Used to keep clay from sticking to the table surface.



You can use slip a board into an old pillowcase OR you can cut the pillowcase and staple it to the back side of the board.

Ms. Garwood will provide foam sheets and canvas for you to roll our coils and slabs.



9. **Spray bottle for water;** Used to keep you clay damp.

Ms. Garwood will provide a spray bottle for you in your clay kit.



10. **Hole Cutter:** Used to cut holes int clay.



Make by finding a straw 😊 You can also use a dowel or chop stick to push through the straw to clear the clay out.

