CLAY PUZZLE MOSAIC DISH

"Mosaic Dish"
Materials needed: 5 lbs. of low fire white moist clay, HS01 hump/slump, SG08 Medallion sprig tool, one yard of canvas, Sandbag (place one cup of play sand into handkerchief and tie to close).

Plaster forms and tools can be successfully used to create imaginative and unique clay pieces. Because of the absorbent nature of plaster, clay can be depressed into highly detailed sprig molds and lifted from the mold without sticking. Minute details can be successfully transferred from plaster to clay. The absorbent plaster forms help to assure an even and timely draw of moisture from the clay body, limiting cracks and sticking. Convex plaster forms are known as "hump molds" while concave plaster forms are known as "slump molds". Plaster forms help even the first time student create clay hand building projects with fantastic results! Find more information and additional projects at:

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To create the "clay puzzling" dish on a hump, draw a 7" x 7" square on a piece of paper. Roll clay to create a coil around the perimeter of the square on the paper.

Push clay into a sprig mold (the medallion shown in the center of the dish is found in CPI mold #SG08). Using a small ball of clay, lift the clay from the sprig mold. Place the clay sprig face down into the center of the 7"x 7" square.

Begin filling the area between the sprig and the coil perimeter with balls of clay. After the entire 7" x 7" square is full of balls and the face down sprig, smear the balls and sprig together. Add moist clay where necessary to create a flat smooth surface. Lift the paper and remove the paper from the clay.

Place the clay smooth side up over the square hump mold. Ease the clay onto the hump using the handkerchief pouncing too. Use slip to add ball or coil feet to the bottom of the dish if desired. Remove the project at the "leather hard" stage in 1-2 hours. Allow to dry completely before firing. The project looks great with both transparent and art glazes.