

# Hand-building a Square Plate with Ivy Accents

## Tools & Supplies:

Canvas Mat, Wire Clay Cutter, XL Rolling Pin, [SP01 Square Slump](#), Sandbag, Clay Knife, Sponge, [SG05 Ivy Sprig](#), Squeeze Bottle with Clay Slip.



STEP 1: Using a wire, slice off an appropriate amount of clay from a block of low fire white moist clay.



STEP 2: Using the palms of your hands, slightly flatten the clay onto a piece of canvas.



STEP 3: Beginning rolling the clay using a large rolling pin. Press firmly and roll the entire length of clay.



STEP 4: Roll twice and turn the clay over. Repeat until the clay is rolled to desired thickness and size.



STEP 5: Compare clay dimensions to plaster form to assure proper coverage.



STEP 6: Lift clay from canvas and place onto plaster form.



STEP 7: Use a soft cloth full of sand to pounce the clay into the plaster form. Pounce until smooth.



STEP 8: Use a wooden tool to cut the excess clay. Scallop the edge of the plate as you cut.



STEP 9: Remove the excess clay and set aside.



STEP 10: Use a moist sponge to smooth and clean the scalloped edge.



STEP 11: Blend the sponge marks into the plate texture.



STEP 12: Place a 4" x 4" piece of excess clay onto one of the ivies in the sprig.



STEP 13: Using the bag of sand, pounce the clay into the form.



STEP 14: Lift the clay from the form.



STEP 15: Using a cleaning tool, cut the ivy shape from the clay. Repeat 12-15 until you have gathered the desired number of clay ivy leaves.



STEP 16: Use a moistened sponge to lightly clean edges of the ivy.



STEP 17: After arranging the ivy on the plate, lightly score the area below the ivy on the plate.



STEP 18: Use a cleaning tool to lightly score the back of the ivy.



STEP 19: Apply a small amount of low fire white slip to the back of the ivy.



STEP 20: Depress the ivy onto the scored area on the plate.



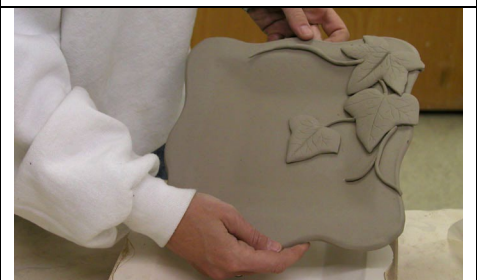
STEP 21: Roll thin ropes of clay and slip and depress the ropes onto the plate as ivy vines.



STEP 22: Run the vines onto the appropriate area of each leaf.



STEP 23: Gently clean the leaves, plate, and vines.



STEP 24: When the plate is leather hard, remove it from the mold and clean the edges with a cleaning tool. Allow it to dry completely before firing.