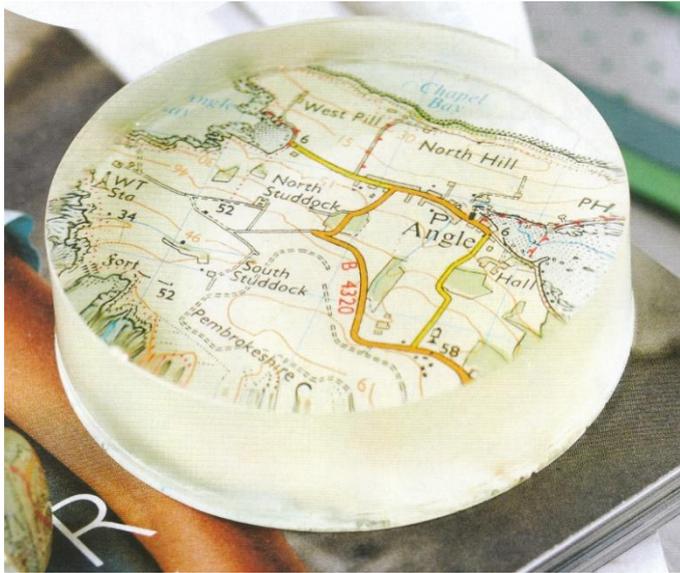


Mapped Out



Any man would be thrilled to receive this sophisticated gift set devised by Ellen Kharade.

The paperweight is made from resin and a circle of vintage map paper and is ideal for a study or office.

The cufflinks are a fun addition to an accessories collection and are very simple to make.



MATERIALS AND TOOLS

- ✓ Empty circular tub
- ✓ Vintage road map
- ✓ Mod Podge sealer
- ✓ Ceramic tile
- ✓ Newspaper
- ✓ Acetate sheet
- ✓ Adhesive tape
- ✓ Resin Making Kit: digital scales, mixing cups, mixing sticks, barrier cream
- ✓ CHEMSET® ES 8102 Resin
- ✓ CHEMSET® ES 8203 Hardener
- ✓ Stanley knife
- ✓ Pliers
- ✓ Scalpel
- ✓ Fine grit sandpaper
- ✓ Blue card
- ✓ Double sided tape
- ✓ Cufflink bezels
- ✓ Plasticene

STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS

For the Paperweight

STEP 1

Discard the lid of the empty tub, rinse the tub and dry thoroughly. Using a knife cut off the base of the tub and discard. Place the neat end of the tub on a vintage map, draw around it and cut out the circle. Give the circle at least three coats of Mod Podge sealer, both front and back, leaving each coat to dry in between.

STEP 2

Place a large ceramic tile or glass chopping board onto a newspaper-covered table and tape a square of clear acetate onto it. Lay the map circle face-up on the acetate and place the pot neat side down onto the map lining up the edges. Paint Mod Podge around the base of the pot to create a complete seal. Re-apply the Mod Podge two more times to ensure no resin can seep out. Leave to dry.

STEP 3

Apply barrier cream to your hands. Place a mixing cup onto measuring scales and zero them. Pour in 30g of resin and 15g of hardener. Stir gently with a mixing stick until thoroughly mixed, then pour the mixture slowly into the mould and leave, covered, overnight to cure. Repeat the process a second time leaving overnight as before.

STEP 4

Carefully cut the seal using a knife; it should peel away quite easily. Slice down the plastic pot – it might be brittle so take care and use pliers to help peel away the plastic until the resin piece is released. Measure 25g of resin and 12.5g of hardener into a mixing cup. Stir and leave to thicken for 20 minutes, then carefully pour over the paperweight to top it up. Cover the paperweight with a tub and leave overnight to cure.

STEP 5

Using a scalpel pare away any excess resin at the base of the paperweight and sand with fine grit paper until smooth. Cut out a disc of blue card and stick to the bottom of the paperweight with double-sided tape to finish.

For the Cufflinks

STEP 1

Place a cufflink bezel over the map paper then draw around the shape and cut out. Trim to fit. Cut out another oval and give each one three coats of sealer as for the paperweight; leave to dry. Using more Mod Podge glue the map ovals into the bezels and brush the sealer into the corners to create a seal and stop the resin from seeping under the motif.

STEP 2

Cover your work surface with newspaper. Push the cufflinks into plasticene to hold them upright. Mix 10g of resin with 5g of hardener and carefully pour into the bezels. Cover with a tub and leave overnight to cure completely.

DESIGNER TIPS

- An old baking powder or bicarbonate of soda tub works perfectly as a mould.
- Do not try to mix the whole amount of resin in one go. The heat given off during the chemical reaction will cause the resin to spoil before the curing time is complete.