

# Gifts from the Kitchen

## Variations on Play Dough

These are a perfect gift for any children-or young at heart- on your list! Package them in small plastic bags, or in small lidded containers.

### Homemade Craft Clay

You can use this recipe to make ornaments, jewelry, or small sculptures (the clay hardens after baking). Have fun painting and sealing your pieces as desired.

#### Ingredients:

1 cup salt  
4 cups flour  
1 1/2 cups warm water

Mix the ingredients to form the clay. Store the clay in a sealed container until needed.

Bake the finished pieces on a non-stick baking sheet at 350 degrees for approximately 1 hour or until the clay is slightly brown around the edges. Cool the baked clay items on a wire rack before handling or painting them.

### Slow Cooker Play Dough

#### Ingredients:

2 cups flour  
1/2 cup salt  
3 Tablespoons cream of tartar  
3 Tablespoons cornstarch  
2 cups warm water  
2 Tablespoons vegetable oil  
1/2 teaspoon almond extract (optional)  
Food coloring of your choice

Add dry ingredients to slow cooker, followed by the wet ingredients. Stir until well combined. Add a few drops of food coloring and stir.

Cover and cook on high for 1 hour. Remove lid and stir play dough until you have an even consistency.

Caution: Play dough will be hot when you remove from the slow cooker, so allow it to cool before playing.

### Moon Sand

Moon sand can last 2 weeks to a month in an airtight container or bag. Throw it away if it starts to look dirty or smells off.

#### Ingredients:

2 cups flour  
1/4 cup baby oil

Stir the flour and baby oil together until combined. It's done when the texture is consistent and the flour is moldable with a spoon.

To color, add gel food coloring to oil before adding flour. Water-based food coloring does not mix well.

