

Crown Tutorial

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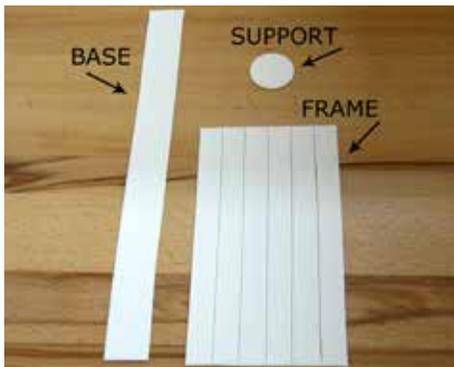


1. Roll out enough white gumpaste to cut the following pieces:
 - Six strips – 8" long and 3/4" wide. These will make up the frame of the crown.
 - One strip 13" long and 1 1/4" wide. This will be the base of your crown.
 - One circle, 1 3/4" round. This will be a support for the top of the crown.
2. Wrap your base strip around a 4" round Styrofoam™ dummy. You will need to trim a little to make the ends meet and not overlap. This will hold the base of your crown in a perfect circle. Allow to dry for at least 4 days.
3. With the back side of a knife, score each of the frame strips at 1/2" from one end (this is the top) and 7/8" from the other end. (this is the bottom). Be careful not to cut all the way through. At the end of the frame strips that you scored 1/2" from the edge, cut the ends to form a point as shown.

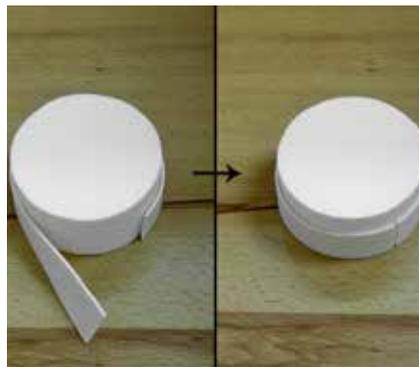
Materials

- White gumpaste
- Red gumpaste
- Edible glue such as tylose glue or similar
- Gold airbrush paint or Gold luster dust (or highlighter) and high proof alcohol (or lemon extract)
- Assorted circle cutters
- FMM Multi Ribbon cutter – or – ruler and wheel type cutter
- 4" round Styrofoam™ dummy (at least 2" thick)
- Medium size fleur de lis mold or similar
- Small size fleur de lis mold or similar (both of these molds should be relative to the size of the project)
- Extruder with disc to make 1/8" round snake (optional – you may do this by hand, but an extruder is much easier and more precise)
- Decorative embossing pin or mat
- 6mm pearls
- Filigree Border mold by First Impressions™
- String of pearls mold
- Fan brush
- Clear glaze spray

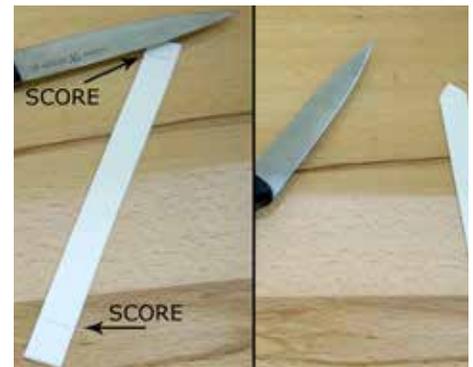
** Unless noted, you will be rolling your gumpaste out to 1/16" or 1/8" depending on how thick or thin you want your crown to be. Just be sure to roll it out to the same thickness throughout the project. If you have the pasta attachment for the Kitchen Aid™ mixer, sheet gumpaste to a #1. This setting is a thickness between 1/16" and 1/8".*



Step 1



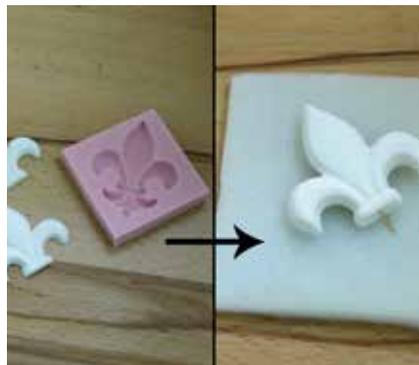
Step 2



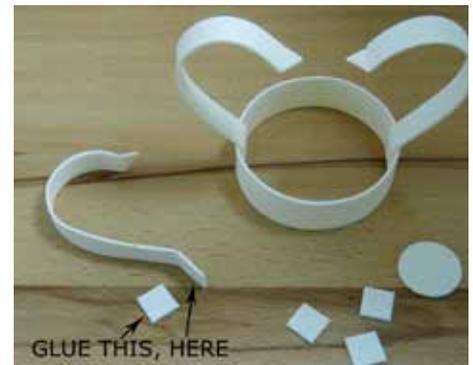
Step 3



Step 4



Step 5



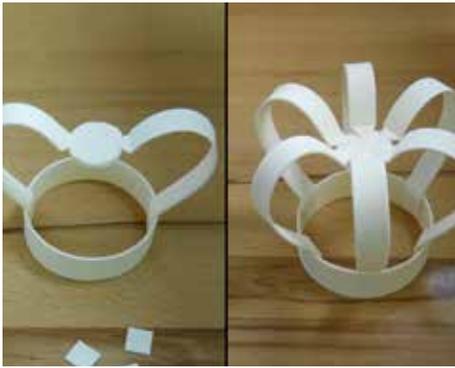
Step 6

4. Enlarge crown frame pattern so that it measures 4 3/4" top to bottom and print enough so that you have patterns for 6 pieces. Tape your patterns to a cake drum, piece of foam core, or cardboard. Whichever material you choose, be sure it is FLAT. Arrange the six frame strips, standing on their sides, on the pattern, carefully bending at the scores as shown. You may need to let your gumpaste firm up a little before it will stand up on it's own. Allow to dry for at least 4 days.
5. As a decorative piece for the top of the crown, mold two fleur de lis pieces and glue them together (back to back) with tylose glue to make one 3-D piece. Cut the bottom off to create a flat surface. Insert a toothpick up through the center, leaving about 1/4" exposed and allow to dry on a piece of foam for at least 4 days.
6. When all items are dry, you may begin assembly. Start by cutting six 3/4" squares of gumpaste and glue them to the outside of the frame pieces as pictured. These fresh squares of gumpaste will act as a cushion between the frame pieces and the base. Glue two frame pieces to the inside of the crown base directly across from each other.
7. Cut a fresh gumpaste circle 1 3/4" and glue it to the dried circle. Fresh circle side up, glue it to the underside of the pointy parts of the frame pieces. Remember, the fresh piece of gumpaste acts as a cushion between two hard (dry) pieces of gumpaste. Continue gluing the frame pieces to the base and the circle support until all six frame pieces are attached and they are evenly spaced around the crown.
8. Cut another 1 3/4" gumpaste circle and glue it to the top of the circle support, covering all the pointy parts from the

frame pieces. You may have to trim the circle down slightly to make it fit. Cut a strip of gumpaste 13" long and 1 1/4" wide. Glue this to the inside of the crown base to cover where all of the frame pieces are attached. Trim to fit. Roll some gumpaste about 1/4" thick and cut one 1 1/2" circle and one 1" circle. Glue each one to the top of the crown (1" circle on the very top). Glue the fleur de lis to the top of the crown, inserting the toothpick into the two fresh circles of gumpaste.

9. Extrude or hand roll 12 snakes of gumpaste about 1/8" thick and at least 8" long. Glue one snake on each side of the frame pieces, trimming to fit. I find these pieces stick better if you brush the glue on to the frame pieces then wipe of any excess glue, so it is sticky and not slippery.
10. Using a fleur de lis mold or something similar and decorative of the appropriate size, mold 6 gumpaste pieces and glue between each frame piece at the base as shown.
11. Paint your crown inside and out gold. You may do this with a gold sheen airbrush color or you can paint it by hand with a gold luster dust or highlighter mixed with a high proof alcohol or lemon extract. Be careful when using highlighter as a paint, because it may rub off when handling and you may want to consider sealing the crown after you paint it with a clear spray glaze. You do not need to paint the base of the crown entirely or the centers of the frame pieces as these areas will be covered in the next steps.
12. Roll enough red gumpaste to cut six strips 3/4" wide and 8" long. Before cutting the strips, emboss the gumpaste with a texture pin or mat. Here, I used the FMM multi-ribbon cutter to easily and evenly cut my strips.

Article continues on next page.



Step 7



Step 8



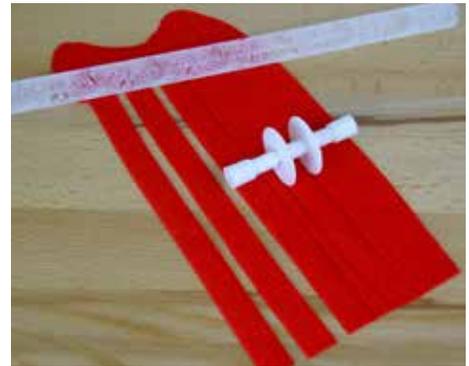
Step 9



Step 10



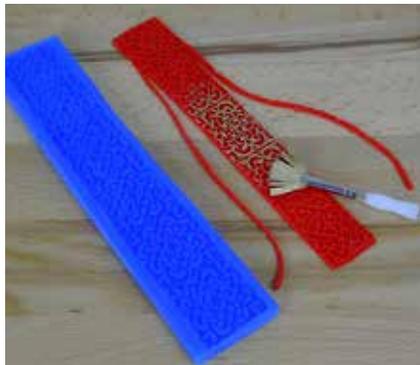
Step 11



Step 12



Step 13



Step 14



Step 15

13. Glue red strips to frame pieces between the snakes, trimming to fit. For added detail, glue 6mm pearls to the center of the red strips making sure they are evenly spaced.
14. Make the decorative trim to wrap around the base of the crown by using red gumpaste and the filigree border mold by First Impressions™. Mold 2 pieces and trim them to 1 1/4" wide. Highlight the filigree with gold highlighter or luster dust mixed with a high proof alcohol or lemon extract. Here, I used a fan brush and lightly dragged it perpendicularly across the molded piece, just catching the raised areas of the filigree. (You may want to practice this on a scrap piece of molded gumpaste until you get the hang of it.)

15. Glue decorative filigree to the base, trimming to fit. Using white gumpaste and a string of pearls mold, mold two strings of pearls at least 14" long each. Glue pearls to the top and bottom of the filigree, trimming to fit. Most bead molds are 9" - 12" long, but I find it easier to handle smaller sections of beads when gluing them to my project. Spray your entire crown with a clear glaze spray. When dry, your crown is now ready to top any cake that's fit for a king (or queen)!

Pattern shown on next page.

