POWERTEX UK

The Powertex Project Book

Thirty-seven sculptures, figures and textured artworks to make, step by step

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Introduction

Welcome! This book brings together thirty-seven Powertex projects that were first written as individual tutorials: kit guides from our Powertex UK studio, workshop sheets, and projects from the wider Powertex family of designers. Each one was made to stand alone. Gathered together here, they become a journey through everything Powertex can do, from a glowing autumn owl or a Christmas reindeer you can finish in an afternoon to a full-size elephant built up in layers over several days.

The book begins with The Powertex Essentials, a short reference section covering the materials, the clay recipes and the finishing techniques that appear again and again throughout the projects. Read it once before you start and you will find every project easier to follow. After that, the projects are grouped into five sections, moving roughly from the quickest and most guided makes towards the larger, more ambitious builds.

Every project follows the same pattern: a finished piece to inspire you, a list of what you need, the method, and the step-by-step photographs that show each stage. Where the original designer gave a skill rating, you will see it beside the title. Product codes are included in brackets so that you can find exactly the right item when you order.

Any reference to colours in these pages is only a guide. Always work with your own preferences: the only limit is your imagination!

Skill levels

★ Accessible to beginners: a good first project.

★★ Some experience helpful: more stages, clay work and drying time.

★★★ A more ambitious build: plan for several sessions.

Where no rating is shown, the original tutorial did not give one.

How each project is laid out

- **You will need** lists the materials, with product codes in brackets, followed by the tools and extras.
- **Method** takes you through the project in numbered steps.
- **Step by step** shows the photographs of each stage in order, lettered A, B, C… so that they are not confused with the numbered steps of the method.
- **Finishing touches** gathers the designer's extra tips.

00

The Powertex Essentials

The materials, recipes and techniques that run through every project in this book.

Before you begin

Every project in this book starts the same way: protect your work area with plastic, and wear latex or vinyl gloves whenever you handle Powertex. Pour Powertex into a plastic tub or bowl rather than working straight from the bottle, and shake the bottle well first.

When you work with fabric, use cotton or fabric with at least 80% natural fibres. Powertex needs natural fibres to soak into and harden. Smaller pieces are easier to handle than large, single pieces of fabric.

The materials

- **Powertex** – the universal medium at the heart of every project. It hardens fabric, acts as a glue, and becomes clay when mixed with a powder. Colours used in this book: Black, Bronze, Ivory, Lead, Red, Blue, Green, Yellow Ochre, Terracotta and Transparent.
- **Easy3Dflex** – a powder that thickens Powertex into a paste or a flexible clay that cracks beautifully as it dries.








01

Seasonal Makes

Autumn light, Halloween figures and festive winter makes

Follow the year from autumn into Christmas. The section opens with four projects from our Powertex UK kits, written as picture-led guides, so they are the perfect place to start. Each one teaches a core skill you will use throughout the book: sculpting and texturing Powersmooth clay, draping fabric so that its weight creates natural folds, and bringing a piece to life with dry-brushed pigment. The festive projects that follow take those skills into winter, from a quick reindeer votive to an atmospheric Christmas lamp.

1. Autumn Owl Light
2. Pumpkin Princess
3. Gothic Cinders
4. Skelly Tex
5. Reindeer Votive
6. Christmas Gnome ★★
7. Christmas Pine Cone ★
8. Christmas Bubbles ★★
9. Christmas Lamp ★★★



SEASONAL MAKES · PROJECT 1

Autumn Owl Light

Design: Michèle Brewer, Powertex UK

Create a charming, light-up owl sculpture that glows with the rich warmth of autumn.

You will need

MATERIALS

- 100g Transparen
- 50g Power
- Pigm

Method

1. **Sculpt the owl's h**
   hat: a soft, dom
   sits on top of
   shape! Onc
   form in m
   surface f
2. **Mix y**
   little
   wa
   E
   s
3



SEASONAL MAKES · PROJECT 2

Pumpkin Princess

Design: Powertex UK · with thanks to Annette Smyth, Creative Adventurer, for her original design

A Halloween figurine with a fabri
skirt, a paper-textile bodice
face.

You





M

around them later. Wrap foil around the wires to create legs. Now cover all the foil with masking tape.

4 **Paint with Powertex.** Paint the whole sculpture with Powertex; Bronze, Black or Green give the best results. Paint the plaster head and hands using a paintbrush.

5 **Fabric-sculpt the pumpkin.** Dip your fabric int
the Powertex, squeezing out any excess
drape the wet fabric around the pu
Working with smaller pieces is
large, single pieces. Make s
creases and folds in ver
weight of the fabric
thank the folds a

6 **The bodice**
fabric, in
Powe
the
t

7

8 **Dry-brushing.** Make sure your sculpture is completely dry. Mix a small amount of green pigment into varnish with a dry, wide, flat br
and thoroughly colour the plas
shoulders, hands and
amount of pig
the br



SEASONAL MAKES · PROJECT 4

Skelly Tex

Design: Powertex UK

A spooky hooded skeleton, dr
fabric and brought to l

M



SEASONAL MAKES · PROJECT 5

Reindeer Votive

Design: Michèle Brewer, Powertex UK

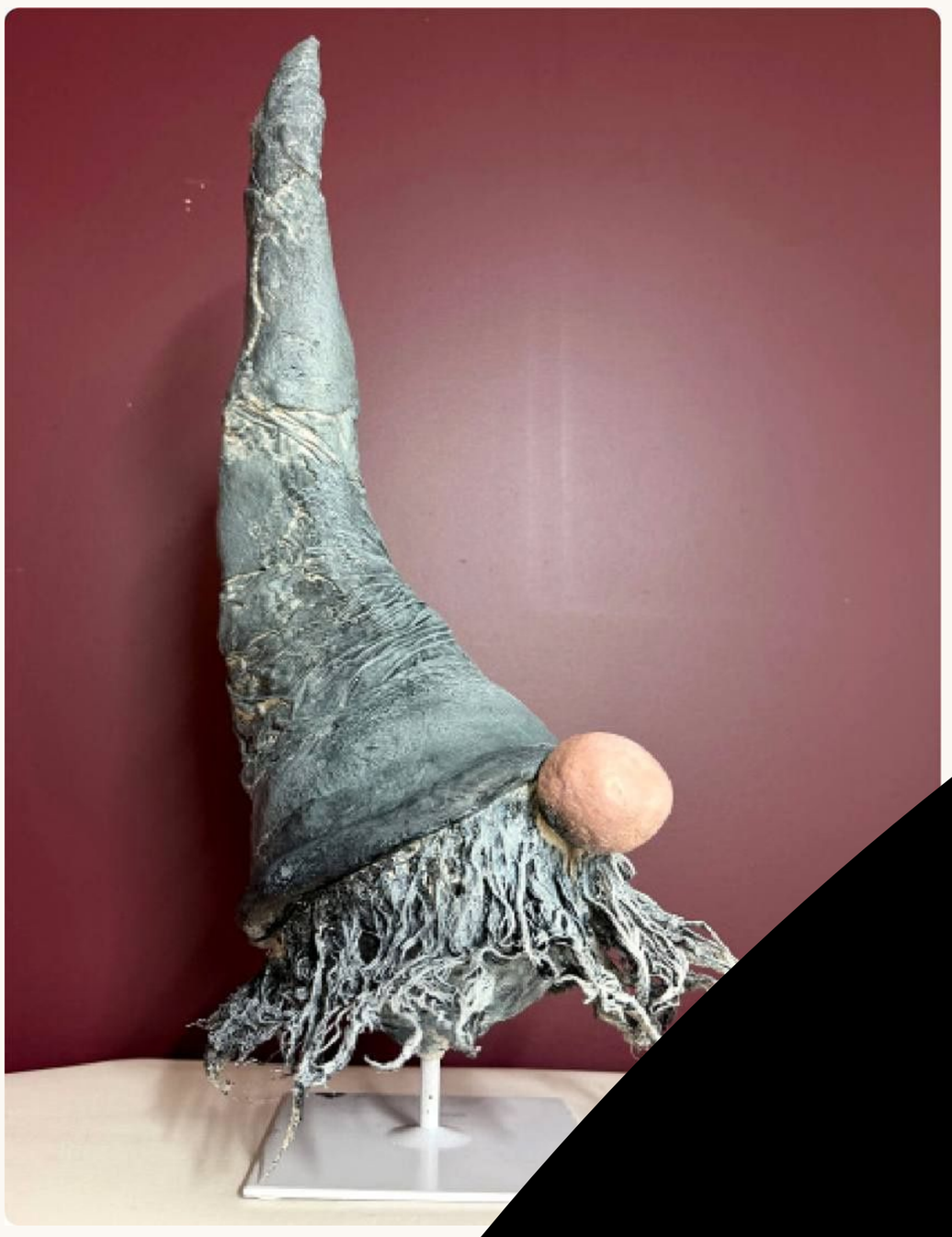
Transform a simple wire armature in
votive candle holder using Po

You will

MATE

Meth

1



SEASONAL MAKES · PROJECT 6

Christmas Gnome

Design: Brigitte Grade

★★

*A tall, crackled stone
hat, a rosy nos*








02

Figures, Faces & Hands

Plaster figures transformed with fabric and clay

Plaster heads, hands and figurines are the starting point for every project in this section. The first pieces rely on fabric sculpting; from there the projects move into Stone Art and Easy3Dflex clay, textures pressed in with rope, lace and stencils, and the dramatic cracks that make Powertex clay so distinctive.

1. Lady in Rags ★
2. Angel Jonas ★
3. Corina ★
4. Embrace ★
5. Stylish Jewellery Tree ★
6. Blue Ball ★
7. African Duo
8. Suma Lady
9. Abstract
10. Mona ★★★



FIGURES, FACES & HANDS · PROJECT 10

Lady in Rags

Design: Brigitte Grade

★

A graceful fab
ragged l
br

Step by step





FIGURES, FACES & HANDS · PROJECT 11

Angel Jonas

Design: Brigitte Grade

★

A small seated angel
cloud above a



FIGURES, FACES & HANDS · PROJECT 13

Embrace

Design: Brigitte Grade

★

Two polystyrene half
rope, stencils
weathe
cl



FIGURES, FACES & HANDS · PROJECT 17

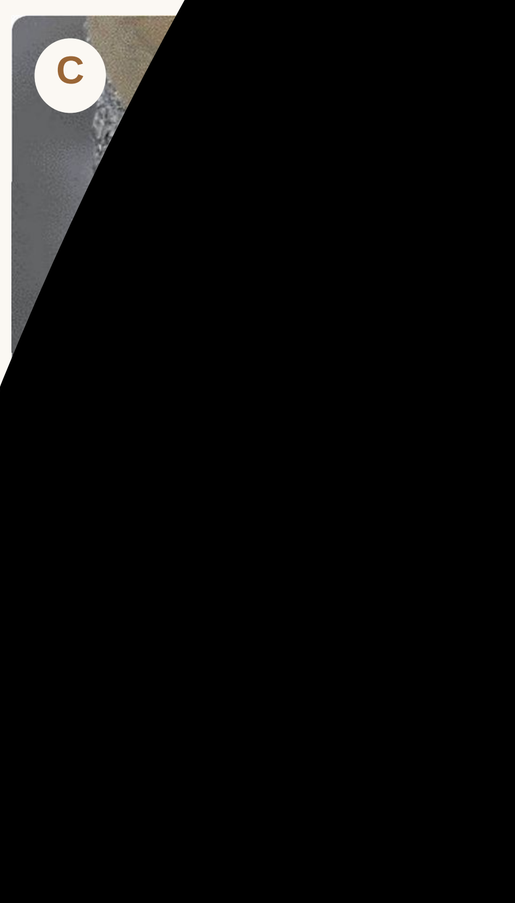
Suma Lady

Design: Brigitte Grade

A generous, rounded figu
three shades of Fe
stencilled h
loinc

Step by step











03

Canvases & Wall Art

Texture, colour and crackle on the flat

Powertex is just as much at home on a canvas or frame. These three projects explore 3D Sand and Balls, structure paste, poured and palette-knife colour, and the heat-activated crackle of Bister, ending with a framed Egyptian relief.

1. Sand & Balls Red Canvas ★
2. Mixed Media Canvas ★★★
3. Tutankhamun ★★



CANVASES & WALL ART · PROJECT 21

Mixed Media Canvas

Design: Brigitte Grade

★★★

A le

You will need

MATERIALS

- Powertex Ivory 500g (0037)
- Powertex Black 500g (0211)
- Powertex Red 500g (027
- Powertex Blue 500g (
- EasyStructure (000
- Bister Mahogany
- Bister Black (0
- 3D Sand 230
- 3D Balls M
- 3D Balls
- 2 spra
- Canv
- Th

TO



CANVASES & WALL ART · PROJECT 22

Tutankhamun

Design: Brigitte Grade & Kjersti Matre

★★

A gilded plaster pha
frame of ivor
orange

You will need

MATERIALS

- Powertex Ivory 500g (0037)
- Powertex Blue 500g (0277)
- EasyStructure (0009)
- Bister Black (0285)
- Bister Blue (0283)
- Spray bottle (0266)
- Tutankhamun plaste

TOOLS & EXTRAS

- Brush
- Sponge
- Palette kn
- Hairdry
- Card a

Met

1











04

Creatures of Shell & Sea

Wall pieces moulded over a ball, and fish on stands

The first three projects share one simple technique: Easy3Dflex clay moulded over half a polystyrene ball that has been wrapped in plastic, then lifted off once dry to make a light, open wall piece. The section then moves on to two larger fish built on metal stands.

1. Snail ★★
2. Tropical Fish ★★
3. Medusa ★★
4. Koi Carp
5. Blowfish ★★★



CREATURES OF SHELL & SEA · PROJECT 23

Snail

Design: Brigitte Grade

★★

An open spiral shell in cracked turquoise and bronze, moulded over half a ball and designed to hang on the wall.

You will need

MATERIALS

- Powertex Bronze 500g (0059)
- Easy3Dflex 1kg (0264)
- Colortricx Bronze Gold (0104)
- Powercolor Turquoise (0063)
- Powercolor White (0024)
- Stockinette (0042)
- Easy Varnish 100 ml (0012)
- Half a polystyrene ball, 15 cm
- Plastic wrap
- 1 m Hoooked, or a strip of T-shirt 5 cm wide

TOOLS & EXTRAS

- Wide, flat brush
- Masking tape
- Gloves
- Spatula
- Wooden skewer
- Wooden toothpicks (optional)
- Dry cloth

Method

1. Cover the half ball with plastic wrap and fix it with masking tape. Put on your gloves.
2. Coat the 1 m strip with Powertex Bronze, work it in well, wring it out and twist it twice around the rim of the half ball. This gives extra support and shape throughout the build.
3. Mix 200g of Powertex Bronze with the same volume of Easy3Dflex using a spatula, adding more powder if needed, until you have a mouldable paste that no longer sticks to your hands.
4. Roll a large sausage of clay about one finger thick. Starting at the centre of the half ball, lay the sausage in a spiral from top to bottom, leaving gaps of about 2 cm between the coils.
5. Press the coils down a little, then lay a piece of Stockinette over them and press gently until the clay is 0.5 to 1 cm thick. Take the Stockinette off: a beautiful texture remains. If the spiral has closed up too much, open it again with a skewer.

Over to you

We hope these projects inspire you to experiment, to combine techniques, and to make each piece your own.

We would love to see what you create. Share your work in our Facebook group, *The Powertex Studio*, and inspire others in the community.

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