

## How to Use The Kato Clasp Template



Make a clasp  
scaled to your  
polymer clay art  
jewelry.

**Contents: Clasp Template and Cut outs** - for this tutorial I'm working in grey which makes it easier to see the steps. Ordinarily, I make these clasps in black.

1. Peel the protective film from both sides of the template. With a fine grit sanding block, sand the smooth, unetched side. This will minimize sticking of template to raw clay.
2. Determine which setting on your machine equals 2mm. The hook is 4mm thick so you need to know this. Remember this setting. On my machine it is setting 2.
3. The clasp features two discs that, when joined together, contain the hook. You have some flexibility as to the thickness of these two discs. In this demo, I will roll clay through the 2mm setting but you might wish for a thinner clasp which would be setting 3. Press the sheet to a tile.
4. Place A on the clay, cut around. Repeat to cut 2 discs.



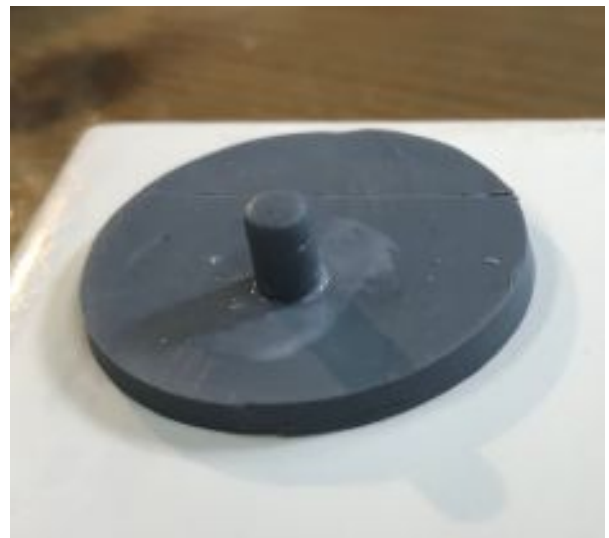
5. Place B on one disc. As you work, do not move the template. Lightly scribe the straight line, **do not cut through**, and then, with a scalpel, cut out the hole. Repeat with second disc.



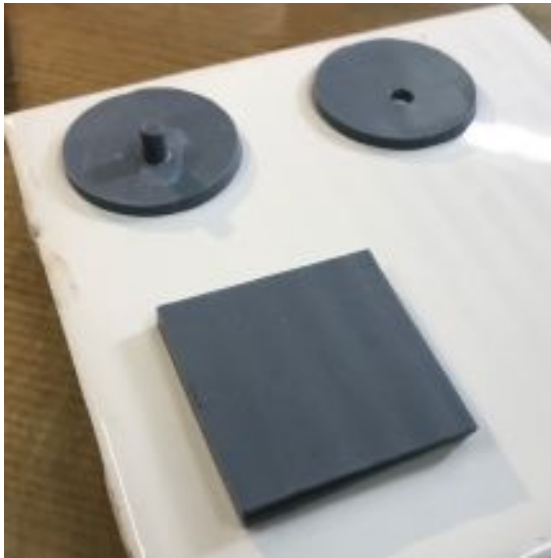
6. Place B on the set aside clay, cut out 2 more holes. Stack the 4 and lightly roll to join. Note: If the discs are setting 3 - you will need 2 cut outs of 3 and 2 cut outs of 2. Make sure they're well joined, the hook wraps around this. Test thickness against the included cut out of the hook. If it is too thick, roll lightly to thin. Goal: the rod should be the same thickness as the opening. Mine is too thin.



7. Place liquid clay in one hole, press the rod onto the liquid. Do not make the rod much thicker or shorter by pushing. It must stand straight, not crooked.



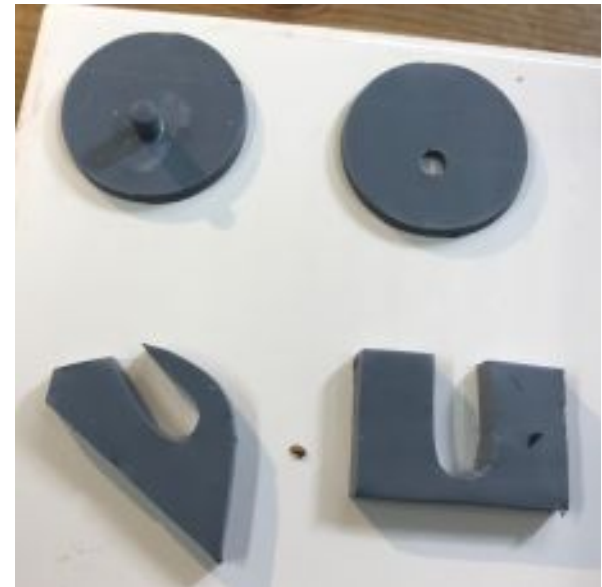
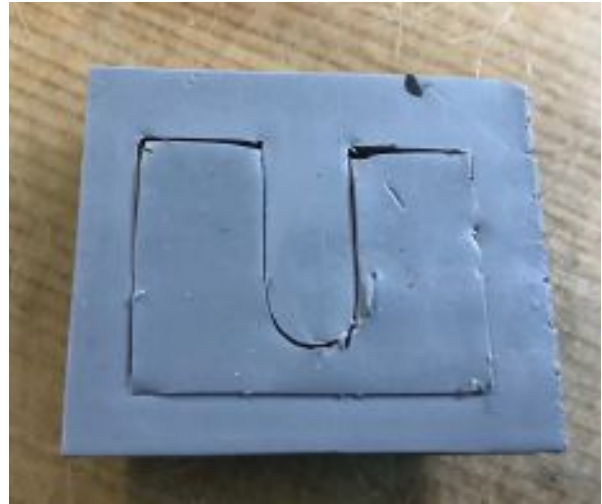
8. Fold the set aside clay sheet in half to make it double thickness.  
Cut a piece large enough for the hook and press it onto the tile.
9. Place D (hook) on the clay and cut the shape. Cutting Corners: Cut to a corner from a mid point, do not begin at a corner. Carefully remove clay around hook,



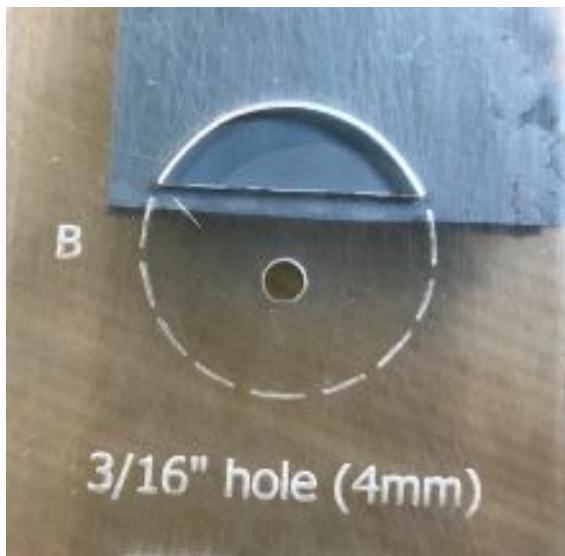


10. Compare the opening of the hook against the acrylic piece. If it matches, good. If the opening is wider, push the tip of the hook into position so it matches the acrylic piece.

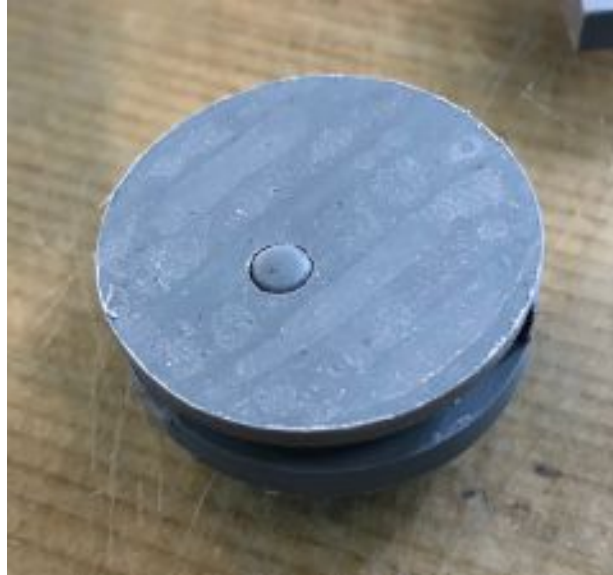
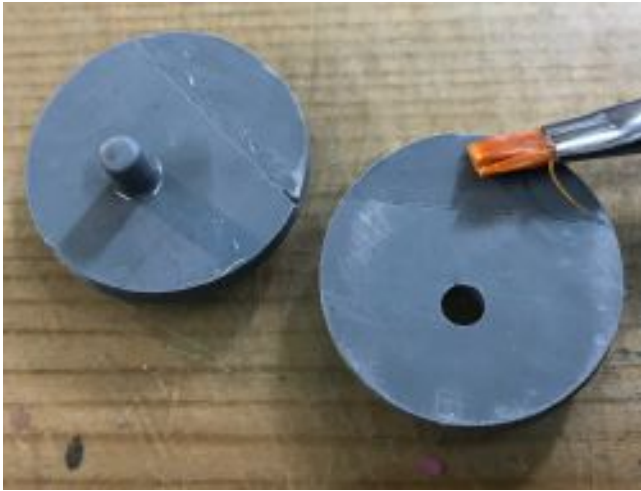
11. Brace (C) - can be scrap. Fold sheet in half, place C on clay, cut around. Remove clay from around brace. Lift and place on tile. Cure these pieces.



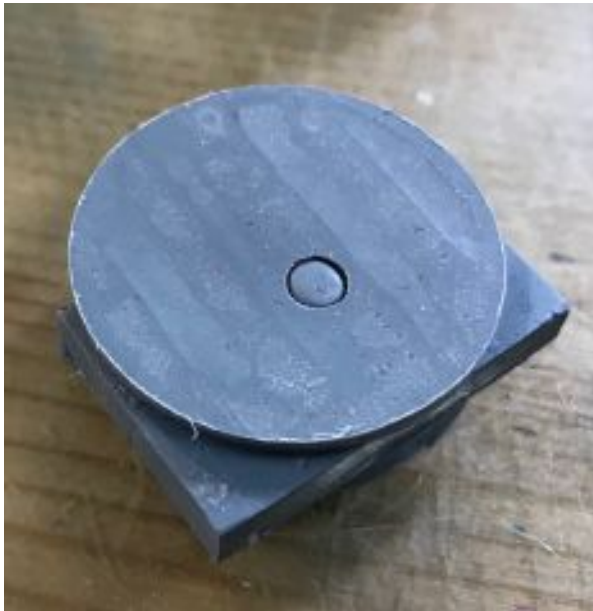
12. Onto double thick clay, place B.  
Cut the open shape above the hole – this is what keeps the two halves together. This is also where you will drill the hole that one end of the cord is glued into.



13. Apply liquid to area above the scribed mark on each disc. Press raw cut out to one, then place the other disc onto the raw clay. The rod will run through both. If the rod is too long, you will sand it down later.



14. Apply Repel Gel to the brace (C). Insert it around the rod, lightly touching the raw clay. If there is a space around the rod, apply PolyPaste. Note: Each time the clasp is cured, you will insert the brace piece. Cure.





15. Remove the brace while the piece is still warm, insert the actual hook and snug the discs to the hook. You don't want the hook loose between the discs.
16. Finish: Sand, where required - backfill, cure again.
17. Drill the attaching holes into the main body of the clasp and hook (2mm holes). Finish with any decorative touches you wish.

