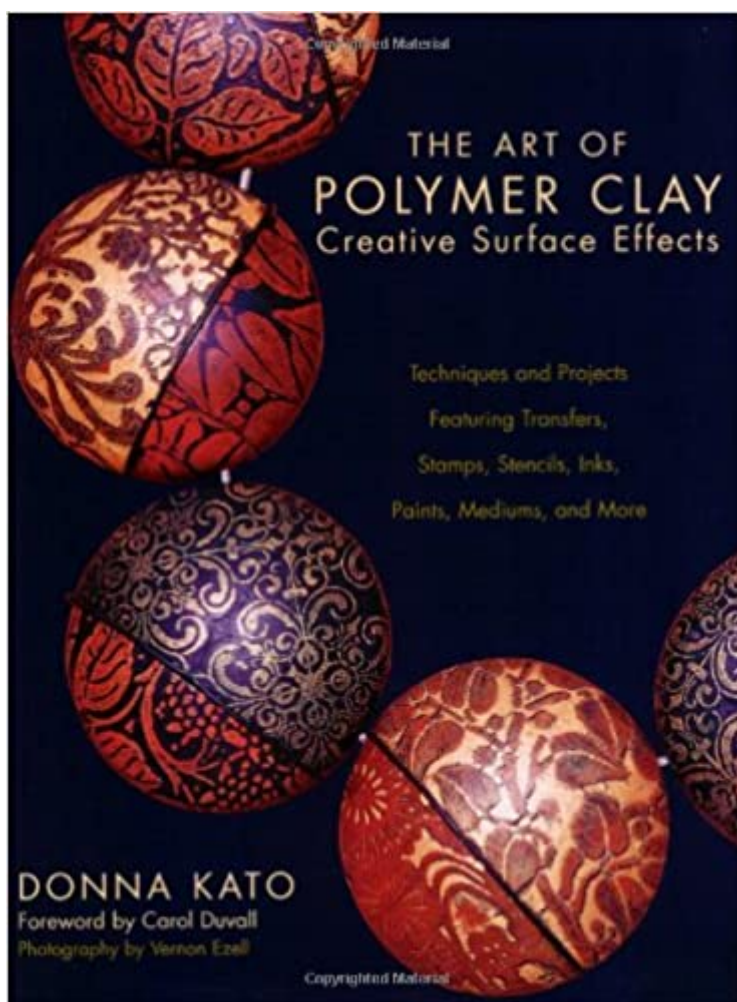


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# The Art Of Polymer Clay Creative Surface Effects: Techniques And Projects Featuring Transfers, Stamps, Stencils, Inks, Paints, Mediums, And More





## Synopsis

Polymer clay has grown and grown and grown in popularity since the publication of Donna Kato's best-selling *The Art of Polymer Clay* in 1997. And there have been so many technical advances, too. Now poly-diva Donna Kato presents an all-new look at one of crafters' all-time favorite mediums. *The Art Of Polymer Clay Surface Effects* begins with the essentials of polymer clay, including its working properties, plus tools, curing, safety recommendations, and color blending (with full information on the now-indispensable Skinner Blend). Photo-packed chapters focus on exciting projects—beads, bracelets, pins, pendants, and boxes—and showcase new techniques, including image transfers, surface treatments such as stencils, stamps, paints, and inks, sculpting, inclusions, special effects, and finishing. Finished pieces by some of the biggest names in polymer clay, including Kathleen Dustin, Pier Voulkos, and Nan Roche, plus Donna Kato herself, offer ideas and inspiration.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Donna Kato is one of the world's best-selling authors on polymer clay crafts. Her books *The Art of Polymer Clay* and *The Art of Polymer Clay Creative Surface Effects* have sold more than 110,000 copies. Her *Kato Polyclay* is available across the country. She and her husband, photographer Vernon Ezell, live in Florissant, CO.

I just received Donna Kato's *Creative Surface Effects*. This book appeals to me immensely as I love

the heavy Asian art and Art Nouveau influences The coloring of her projects feel both soft and strong, and I love her patterns. I like this book as her designs are substantially fine art creations. The designs are rich yet bold with patterns that are unique. Techniques are well demonstrated through both pictures and clear instructions. This is not quite for the novice as it assumes that you know the basic polymer clay techniques. However, I think it would be a great addition to anyone's library because the point is to challenge ourselves. So many beautiful things and never enough hours in a day.

I'm a professional researcher at heart so when I delve into a topic I dive into the deep end and don't come up until I've exhausted the field. True to form this is what I've done with polymer clay. My thinking: If I'm going to spend a lot of money on tools and supplies I'm going to research the heck out of the topic so that I technically understand what's what. As with most artistic mediums, success and high quality results are dependent upon the artist/crafter's understanding of the technical issues. This is where Donna Kato comes into my life (so to speak). I purchased Kato's first book 'The Art of Polymer Clay' and was blown away by the depth and breadth (underline that last) of subtopics presented. Her writing and step by step explanations are clearly presented without being too pedantic. The side by side pictures detail the techniques being discussed and don't omit that critical step which makes the difference between success and failure. Some authors don't edit their own work very well and when omissions of this sort happen it drives me crazy. From my experience with her first book I purchased Kato's 'The Art of Polymer Clay: Creative Surface Effects' and again wasn't disappointed (remember my expectations at this point were high). This book is an outstanding tool. With Kato's help, and admittedly the help of other well qualified author's my overall appreciation of polymer clay techniques has grown leaps and bounds and I look forward to years of expressing myself in the millions of ways this particular medium allows.

I was totally new to clay working, heading for a class in the medium, when I purchased this book. I was absolutely delighted, and was able to start my class with some background and understanding of working the materials. I sit in awe of Ms. Kato's talent, and did find the techniques more difficult than they look. This aside, it is an excellent accumulation of many of the techniques that makes polyclay such a joy to work with. Ms. Kato does list several varieties of clay, inks, paints and other products, but I appreciate that she enumerated which she found easier to work with, and why. I did expect some bias towards Kato Polyclay, as she helped develop it, but have also found this an excellent product to work with and have not been disappointed with its performance. The book is a

MUST HAVE for the beginner reference library, and is also an inspiration with the images from Ms Kato and other artist's collections. I'm pleased I purchased this book, and plan to keep it as a cornerstone for clay working.

Donna Kato's new book, with photographs by her husband Vernon Ezell and a foreword by Carol Duvall, covers a wide range of techniques and styles. Kato's work defies categorization, covering nostalgic pieces, modern pieces, whimsical items, Asian-inspired items, and even sculpture. Her versatility is amazing. Her teaching ability is wonderful, and through the many photographs we get to see her flawless craftsmanship in action. I was especially intrigued by her Brocade Technique and by a watercolor-y bead, done with alcohol-based inks and a rubber stamp of some handwriting. Always breaking new ground, Kato gives us a collection of stylish, artistic and creative techniques. She carefully explains each one, along with reasons why she chose the materials she used. She includes work from other artists as well, making this a well-rounded and extremely useful book. It doesn't get any better than this!

This book out weighed my expectation's! This book is so wonderful and so informative. Donna gives you do's and don'ts and everything in between. So many wonderful thing's were swirling around my head while reading. This is an updated version of an older book she wrote and It was so interesting that I bought the old book too. You will really get so much out of this book and anything Donna has written. Thank you so much Donna for sharing your inspiration and letting us know what work's and does not work. John Drummond. P.S. you don't know me but, I know you from the Carol Duvall show!

I loved Donnas book "Millefiore Techniques". This book, Creative Surface Techniques, while it has some good/great techniques, was not as " new" or fun as I had anticipated. Donna is phenomenal and so inspiring that I recommend the book anyways. She has so much to teach and does it very clearly.

Well written and great instruction and photos!

I love this book! I fell in love w/i this book 3 years ago in a well-known bookstore, where it was priced out of my reach, then. When I finally had a little more money, I thought to go to for the book, and got it so inexpensively that a friend asked to get a second copy for her. The book has basic information for beginners as well as the incredible 'special effects" this author is known for, and she

gives detailed step-by-steps that are beautifully illustrated. Can't be beat. Love it!

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