



# NATIVE AMERICAN

• HERITAGE MONTH •

## Pinch Pots

A pinch pot is a type of hand-made pottery made thousands of years ago by various Native American tribes, and are still made today. Many Native Americans made pinch pots for carrying, cooking, and storage. The many different designs on the pots symbolize different stories and meanings.



1



### Gather materials:

- Air Dry Clay
- Paint (acrylic paint lasts longer)
- Toothpicks / Sharpened Pencil
- Pony Beads (optional)

2



Grab a handful of clay and roll it into a ball.

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3



Use your elbow or fist to flatten the ball.

4



Then take your thumb and pointer finger along the edges of your pot and pinch around the entire pot until you reach the desired shape. Smooth out any creases with your fingers.

**PRO-TIP:**

If you mess up, just smear over your mistake with your finger and start over!

5



Use your toothpick or sharpened pencil to create lines or designs in your clay.

6



Push pony beads into the outer surface of your pot for design as well.



7



Allow your pot to dry overnight.

**NOTE:**

The thicker the walls of your pot, the longer it will take to dry.

8



Once dry, paint your pot in the colors you'd like. Highlight your lined designs by painting them a different color.

9



Let it dry, and enjoy your homemade pinch pot!