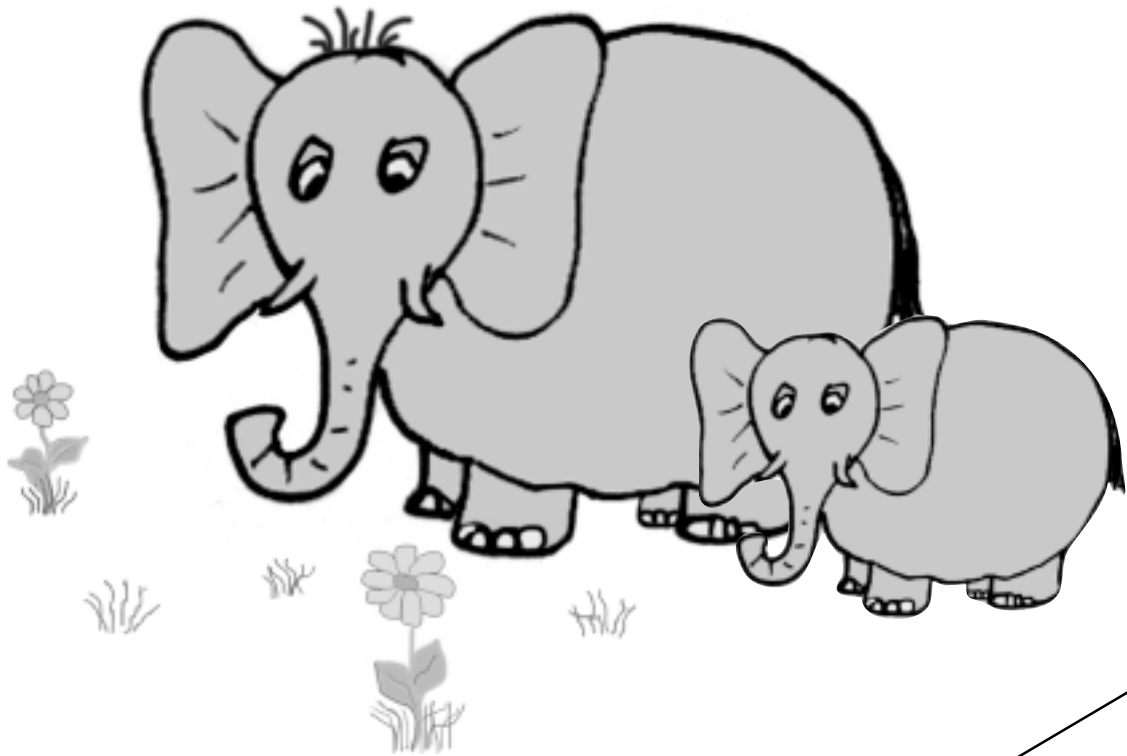


# pottery - tips

## Number 11: Benjamin the Elephant



### You need:

Wire to cut  
Wooden modeling tool or pencil  
Pottery cutting needle or toothpick  
Wire loop modeling tools

### And ... clay!

The elephant is the largest mammal living on solid ground. It reaches length up to 7,5 m and weight up to 7500 kg. But due to size and weight it is difficult to have an elephant at home. So why not potter a small one yourself?

Don't hesitate and enjoy yourself.



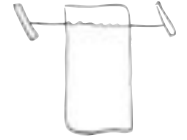
*Sabine Harlan*

Sabine Harlan, Professional Potter  
Nabertherm

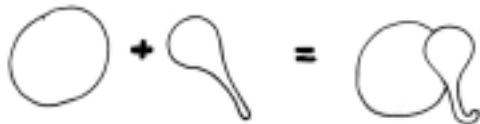
The kiln to success:  
Nabertherm-Kiln top 60



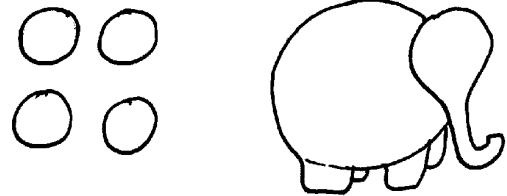
① For bigger objects (more than 10 cm) we would recommend to use dead clay. The modeled objects won't break so fast. Open the bag of clay and cut a small piece of clay with the **cutting wire**. Don't forget to close the bag, because the clay will dry. Mix some clay with water so that you will get a mash: that is the glue for the clay! It's called slip. For small parts it will be enough if you dip them shortly into water before you will fix them.



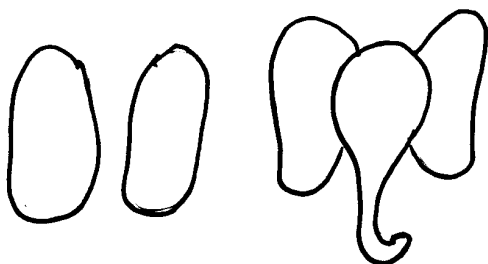
② Then model a ball. It will be the elephant's body. Model a small drop for the head. You have to press the head now tight on the body's tip and spread it (with finger or **modeling tools**)



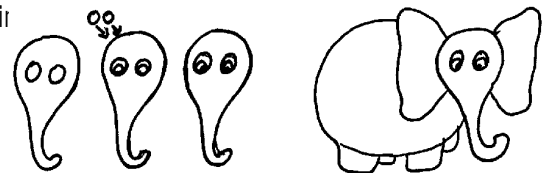
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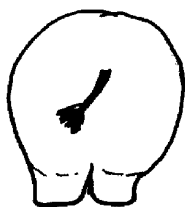
④ Now model two big ears and press them tight on the body and spread it.



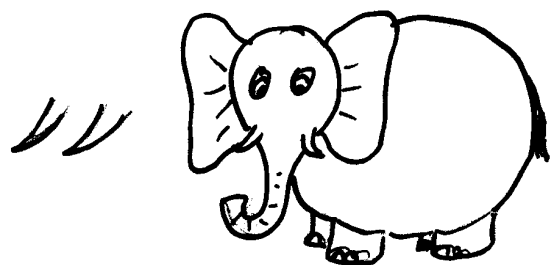
⑤ Last but not least our elephant needs eyes. First you have to dent two big holes in his head – either with a **wooden modeling tool** or with a pencil. Now form two small balls and fix them carefully in the eye socket after you've dipped them shortly into water. Use the tool or pencil again



⑥ Model a small sausage – it will be the elephant's tail. Fix it and spread it.



⑦ At last model two tusks, fix them and spread them. The elephant is ready!



⑧ ) If your elephant should be bigger than 7 cm hollow him out with the **modeling tool**. Otherwise the elephant could break during firing. The elephant should dry **14 days** before firing.