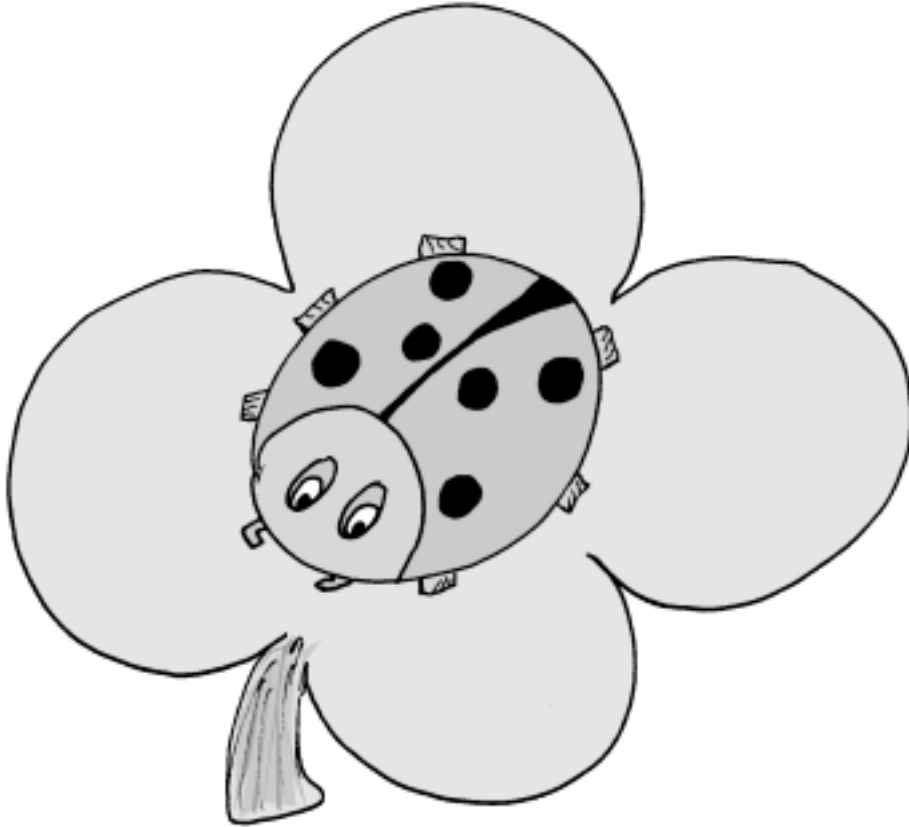


pottery - tips

Number 12: Willi, the Lucky Charm



You need:

Wire to cut

Wooden modeling tool or pencil

Pottery cutting needle or toothpick

Wire loop modeling tools

And ... clay!

Are you on the assumption that the total of dots of a ladybird's wings is identical with its age? That's wrong!

The dots tell you what kind of beetle it is. The seven-dot ladybird for example nourishes mainly greenflies, up to 150 a day. In Germany there are already 78 different species.

You may continue to count the dots on the ladybird's back. But first try to model one yourself.

It's not that difficult.

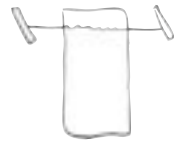


Sabine Harlan

Sabine Harlan, Professional Potter
Nabertherm

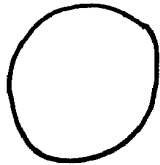
The kiln to success:
Nabertherm-Kiln top 60



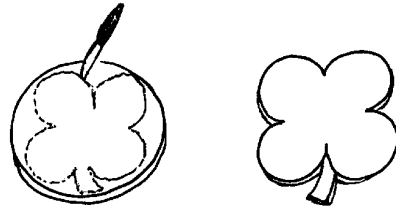


① For bigger objects (more than 10cm) we would recommend to use dead clay. The modeled objects won't break so fast. Open the bag of clay and cut a small piece of clay with the **cutting wire**. Don't forget to close the bag, because the clay will dry up. Mix some clay with water so that you will get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

② At first form a ball and press it into a disc. To avoid that the disc sticks to the desk, you have to keep on turning it.



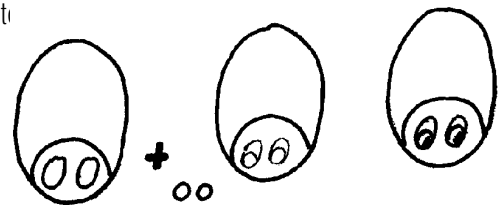
③ Sketch a cloverleaf on the disc and cut it out. Round the edges off carefully with your fingers.



④ Form an oval ball, divide it with a knife into two parts and squeeze it a little bit.



⑤ Mark the head by carving a line into the ball. Then dent two big holes in the head – either with a **wooden modeling tool** or with a pencil. Now form two small balls and fix them carefully in the eye sockets after you've dipped them shortly into water. Use the tool or pencil again to



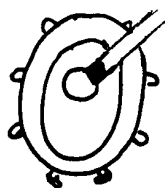
⑥ Use the **modeling tool** or pencil to dent the ladybird's dots and the centerline of his back.



⑦ Use small sausages to form feet and mouth. Dip everything into water and fix it on the beetle's body.



⑧ If your ladybird should be bigger than 7 cm you should hollow him out with the **modeling tool**. Otherwise it could break during firing



⑨ Now use slip to fix the beetle on the cloverleaf. Don't forget to make a little hole into the cloverleaf, so that no air can be locked in the clay. The beetle should dry **14 days** before firing.

