

Special Instructions (Greenware)

In the Doll Dreamers Guild we strive for excellence in all aspects of doll making. We pay attention to every detail to make the doll as graceful and beautiful as it was designed to be. In 2007 Dianna Effner and a group of Guild member made 300 all porcelain dolls for UFDC Collector events.

In the process we arrived at some effective ways of working to improve the presentation and workability of the dolls. We would like to share some of these in some free downloads for doll makers.

This is the first Download for Doll Maker in the series.

Preparation of Parts for Small All-Porcelain Dolls

To achieve the excellence in the pose-ability and posture when assembling an all-porcelain doll care must be taken in preparing the greenware.

The openings in the parts must be trimmed and enlarged to allow for stringing and posing the doll. There is usually an exact position that is ideal for the dolls intended pose that will need to be considered when doing this prep work. Sometimes this is arrived at by trial and error.

The Arms: Enlarge the arm hole opening to about 1/2 inch in diameter. This allows plenty of room for setting the hooks and stringing. Usually the arm hole should be trimmed toward the front and bottom of the hole to allow movement of the arms toward the front of the body. See illustration A.

In the case of the Guitar Arm we have found that the arm hole should be trimmed evenly all the way around for the best result. See Illustration B

The Legs: Enlarge the opening to 5/8 inch. Drill a hole in the right foot for mounting the doll on wooden stand. The hole should be about 1/3 inch from the heel and close to the outside of the foot. The hole should be 1/4 inch in diameter. See Illustration C

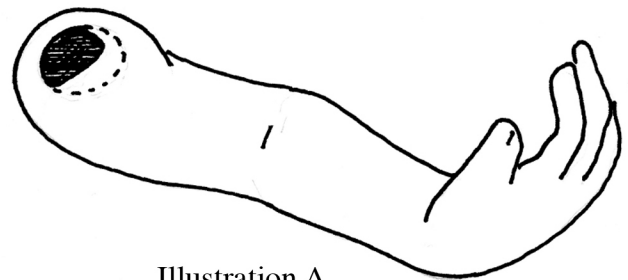


Illustration A



Illustration B

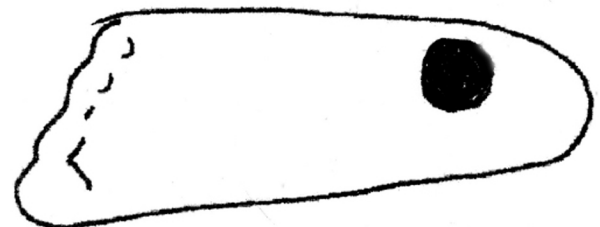


Illustration C

The Torso: Enlarge the neck opening to 1/2 inch in diameter. Trim arm and leg sockets leaving 1/8th to 1/4th inch rim. This will allow enough room for stringing and knotting the elastic at the hip and shoulder joints when assembling the doll.

Note: We use 5/32 inch elastic because it is the most durable for small dolls.

The Head: Enlarge the neck opening to 5/8th inches in diameter allowing 1/8 to 1/4th inch rim. This allows plenty of room for elastic and pose-ability of the head on the finished doll. Enlarge the pour spout toward the back and drill one 1/4 inch hole in front to tie on the head. See Illustration D.

Note: Use a wet sponge to seal all trimmed areas to prevent sharp or weak edges.

When the greenware is dry and before soft firing, smooth and refine the 1/4 inch holes in the head and foot with a Kemper #K23 6" Clean-up Tool.

For more info see Free Download on Assembly of All Porcelain Small Dolls

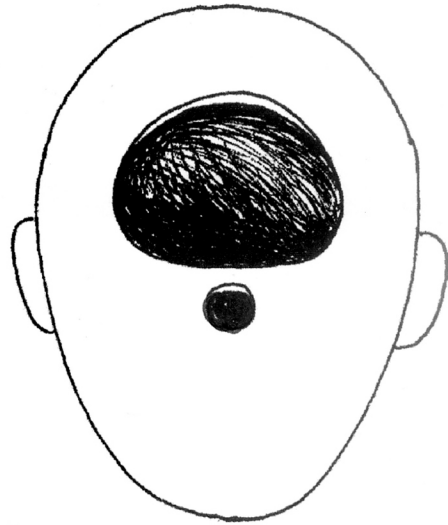


Illustration D