

Homemade Play Dough

With just a few ingredients from your pantry, you (and your kids!) can create a soft and colorful dough that lasts for weeks. Try add-ins to create a seasonal or personalized touch. Extra dough? Print a second recipe and attach to a bag of the colorful stuff. It's a surprise that a mom-friend or any-friend will appreciate!

Ingredients:

3 cups	All-purpose bleached flour
1 ½ cups	Salt
2 Tb	Cream of tartar
3 cups	Water
¼ cup	Vegetable oil

Optional add-ins: Food coloring, essential oils, dried ground herbs (try lavender for a calming effect or cinnamon for a seasonal vibe), and/or glitter

Materials: A sturdy large pot (like what you'd boil pasta in)
Wooden spoon
Measuring cups and spoons
Quart-sized food storage bags

Directions: Grown-ups: Set the stove to medium heat. In a large pot, stir together the flour, salt, and cream of tartar. Then pour the water and oil into the dry ingredients. Stirring constantly, cook the soupy mixture until it becomes a dry-looking solid mass. Turn it out on a clean countertop and knead until smooth.

Add-ins: Divide the dough and place inside quart-sized food storage bags. Add the food coloring directly to the dough. Leave a little air in the bag, seal the bag, and have your kids smush-and-mush until the tie-dye dough is as uninformed in color as you like. (But hands stay clean-ish!) Use cookie cutters, rolling pins, or just your hands to enjoy hours of entertainment. Store the dough in an air-tight container or reuse the food storage bags.

