

INSTRUCTIONS: Picnic Ants

by Claudia Sieb

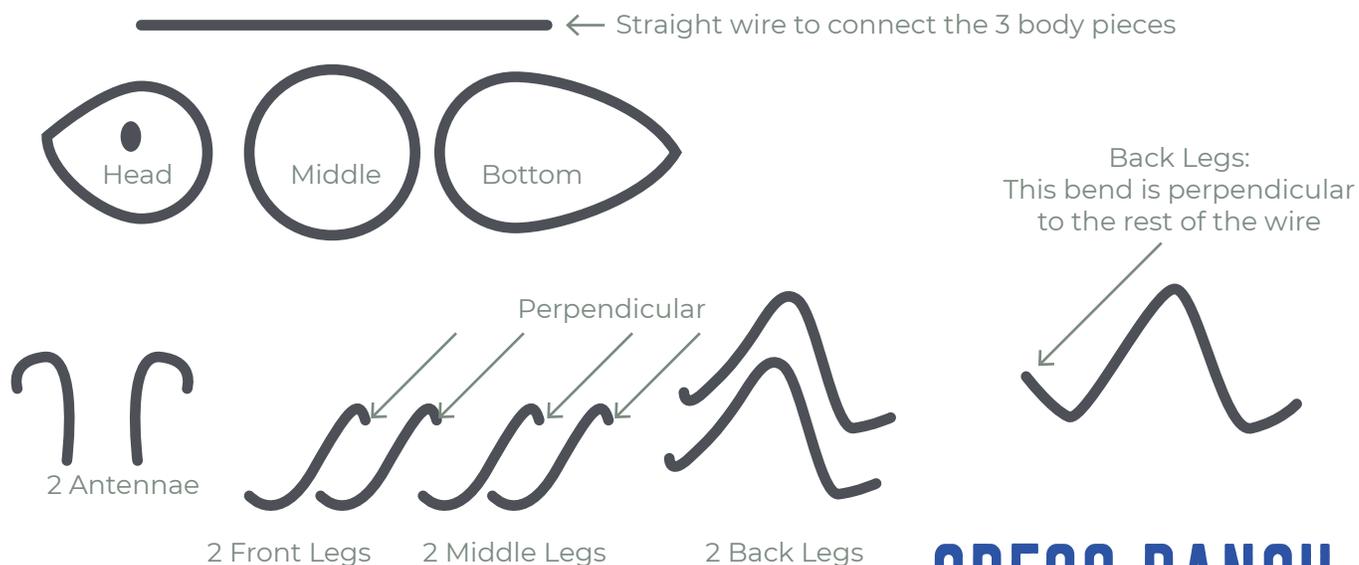
SUPPLIES:

- Fimo or Sculpy (Polymer clay); any color as they will be painted.
- Wire; you can use a thin, cheap hangar for this.
- Wire cutters
- Spray Primer
- Spray Gloss Black paint
- Optional: Spray gloss Varathane or similar high gloss spray coat finish/sealant
- Gold Acrylic paint for eyes and a small, round point paint brush

- 1 Using your clay, form a ball the size of a gumball (about 5/8" diameter). This will be the center body. Using a little larger piece, make another ball but roll one side to make it a little pointy. Using a pencil, end of a wooden skewer, knife, or similar, press in a "smile" across the bottom. This is your head. Using a piece a little larger than the head, roll into a ball and also roll one side to make it a little pointy. This is the back end.
- 2 From your wire, cut a straight piece that will insert through your middle body. You may have to reform your middle body a bit. The wire should extend on each end to push on your head and bottom.
- 3
- 4 Now cut and bend 2 antennae, 2 front legs, 2 middle legs and 2 back legs as illustrated. Press into your ant.
- 5 Bake at about 275°F for about 15 minutes. If any of the wire is loose, apply a bit of E6000, using a pin, skewer or sharp pencil. Once dried, you can paint.

Spray paint a coat of primer onto your ant. Then, applying light coats, spray paint your gloss black over the entire ant. Using a round brush, dab on two dots for eyes on the sides of your ant. If it's not shiny enough for you, spray on the clear coat.

Have a ball with these—they make a cute surprise on the table!



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