

Making Ice Age sculptures

What you will need:

- Sticks of different sizes
- Rounded and pointed stones
- Some air-drying clay or Fimo
- Pears soap
- A lamb or deer rib bone (from a chop)



Making the lion's head from Dolní Věstonice (difficulty level 1)

1. This head was made out of clay. Use some air-drying clay or Fimo to recreate it. Make a short, fat sausage shape with the clay.	2. Bend one end of the clay downwards about halfway along.
A photograph of a short, fat, oval-shaped piece of clay or Fimo, resembling a sausage, resting on a red surface.	A photograph of a hand holding a piece of clay that has been bent downwards at one end, creating a hook-like shape.

<p>3. Take out a little semi-circle of clay at either side of what will be the lion's nose and mouth (sometimes called the muzzle).</p>	<p>4. Smooth this out.</p>
	
<p>5. Using a small pointy stick, draw a mouth and nose on the front of the muzzle.</p>	<p>6. Using a rounded stone, gently draw it down either side of the muzzle to create two grooves and leaving a raised area running down the middle to the nose.</p>
	
<p>7. At the top of these grooves, cut two triangular eyes with a small sharp stick.</p>	<p>8. Take two bits of clay and make them into pea-sized balls and put them on either side of the head for ears. Smooth them on to the head with a stick.</p>
	

9. Your lion head should look something like this.	10. And this is the original.
	

Making the owl pendant from Dolní Věstonice (difficulty level 2)

The owl was made from mammoth ivory, but we can't use that nowadays. You will get a slice of Pears soap to carve instead. This is softer than ivory – and smells nicer!



1. Use a pointed stone to cut out triangles about two-thirds of the way up the soap.



2. Now make small notches in the top edge of the soap to create the ears of the owl.



3. Cut a simple v shape for the owl's beak.	4. Use a cylindrical stick, or a pencil, to drill a hole in the centre of the owl to make a pendant. If you turn the stick or pencil in your hands and press down, it shouldn't be too difficult to get through the soap.
	
5. The last step is to use a rounded stone to smooth out any cracks.	
	

Carving the head of a woman from Brassemouy (difficulty level 3)

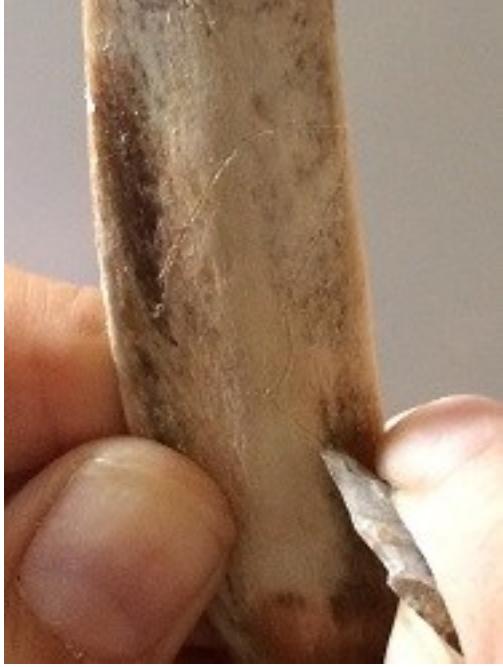
<p>1. Make a short sausage of air-drying clay or Fimo and leave it overnight to dry.</p> 	<p>2. First, scratch the lines to define the woman's jawline and hair with a sharp stone.</p> 
<p>3. Using the same stone, scrape away the excess hardened clay to create the woman's chin and neck. Use small movements with the stone so you are less likely to make mistakes.</p> 	<p>4. Scratch the line of the woman's eyebrows and nose. This looks like two arches that continue down either side of the nose.</p> 
<p>5. Very carefully make the eyes a little deeper.</p> 	<p>6. Now start on the hair. Scratch an almond shape on the top of the head, and then a thinner almond inside, and the criss-cross it.</p> 



7. Scratch lines from the back of this almond down the back of the head and criss-cross them again.	8. Use a rounded stone to gently smooth out any crumbly bits.
	
9. This is our finished article next to a replica of the woman's head.	
	

Engraving (scratching) a horse on a rib bone from Creswell Crags (difficulty level 4)

You might think that scratching a bone would be the easiest way to make a sculpture but it is actually very difficult to control where the sharp stone is going to cut. It also doesn't help that it's difficult to see the cut after you've made it.

<p>1. Scratch a long diagonal line for the top of the horse's head going down to its nose, then curve round the bottom and scratch the bottom edge and neck. Make small scratches for the nose, eyes and ears.</p>	
<p>2. Remember that wild horses from the Ice Age had shorter muzzles than today. Make short forward leaning scratches for the mane. Ice Age horses looked a bit like Przewalski's horses today.</p>	
<p>Przewalski's horse. Photo by Joe Ravi [CC-BY-SA-3.0 (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0)], via Wikimedia Commons</p>	