

Mount Rushmore Paperweight

Supplies:




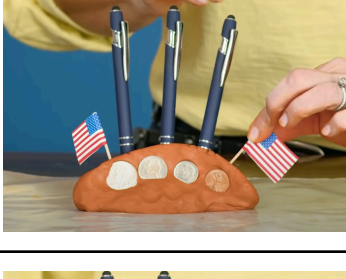

- A sheet of wax paper (about 12x18 inches long)
- Air-dry clay or colored modeling clay
- A quarter
- A nickel
- A dime
- A penny
- Pencil
- Optional: decorative American flag toothpicks



Steps:

	<p>Step 1: Grab some clay about the size of a tennis ball or baseball. Roll the clay between both hands until it forms a smooth ball shape.</p>
	<p>Step 2: Place the ball on the wax paper and begin pinching it between two hands to form a shape like a mountain.</p>
	<p>Step 3: On the left side of the mountain, press the quarter firmly into the clay (heads side up), making sure it is held securely by the clay and does not slip.</p>
	<p>Step 4: Repeat the same step for all the coins, placing the nickel, dime, and penny next to the quarter from left to right. Always press the coin firmly so that it is completely supported by the clay.</p>



	<p>Step 5: Make pencil holes in the back of the mountain. Poke a pencil into the clay vertically point first, about an inch deep.</p>
	<p>Step 6: Twist the pencil back and forth a few times, wiggling it to widen the hole so that it can fit a pencil or pen once it dries.</p>
	<p>Step 7: Place pens into the holes as the clay dries to ensure that the holes are large enough.</p>
	<p>Step 8: If desired, place American flag toothpicks into the clay above each coin.</p>
	<p>Step 9: Allow the clay to air dry on the wax paper for 24-48 hours.</p>

How did they choose which presidents to carve into Mount Rushmore? Each president included on Mount Rushmore was selected to represent important times during the first 150 years of American history. George Washington was chosen to be included because he was the general who led America during our founding back in 1776. He represents the birth of our nation. Jefferson was the president who bought a large amount of land from France, that made America

bigger in 1803. That land was called the Louisiana Purchase. President Theodore Roosevelt made America one of the most powerful countries in the world in the early 1900s. President Abraham Lincoln led America through a very hard Civil War, ended slavery, and kept our country united in the 1800s.

Fun Facts:

- The idea of creating Mount Rushmore came about in 1923, thanks to a historian named Doane Robinson. Gutzon Borglum, the sculptor chosen to design the carvings, decided to make the site a memorial to American history and presidents. Construction began in 1927 and was finished in 1941. Four hundred men were involved in the carving.
- Mount Rushmore is located in the Black Hills region of South Dakota. The region originally belonged to the Native American Kiowa tribe, which was driven out by the Lakota Sioux tribe in the 1870s. In the 1870s, white settlers arrived in the region looking for gold.
- Each face on the real Mount Rushmore is 60 feet tall, and each nose is 20 feet tall. About 2 million people visit Mount Rushmore every year.