

SSVT Presents - Build your own Ganesha

(<https://tinyurl.com/SSVT-BYOG>)

Build Your own Ganesha.

Materials: Ball of clay -1, Tooth picks- 2, Cocktail Umbrella -1

Step1 Use Clay to make 2 big, 2 medium and 2 small balls.

Step 2: Make legs: Use 1 Medium ball and roll it to make it 4 inches long. curve in it like a circle but do not join the ends.

Step 3: Make Stomach: Use 1 big ball to form a round shape, moisten with water place it on legs.

Step 4: Make neck and arms: Use 1 medium ball and roll it to about 6 inches long/ Loop the strip in the middle to place it on Stomach to form neck and arms.

Step 5: Make Ears : Use 1 small ball and roll it into 3 inches. Press the ends to make ears and flatten the middle. Place the middle portion on the neck. Insert a toothpick in the center of neck and let it stick out.

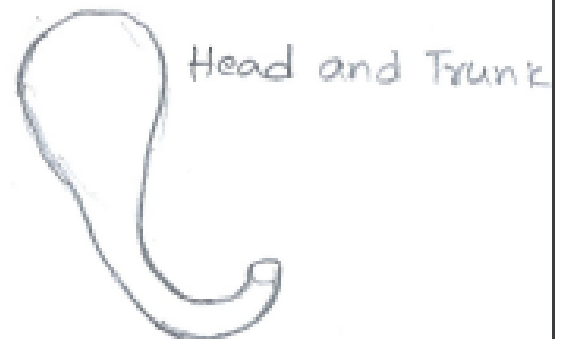
Step 6: Make Face and Trunk: Use the remaining big ball to make a cone. Elongate one end to form the trunk. Place the thicker portion on the neck with the trunk sticking out.

Step 7: Make the Tusks: Break a toothpick in half. Insert on either side of trunk to form tusks.

Step 8: Make a crown: use a small ball of clay and roll into a thin long strip. Form a loop in the shape of a crown and place on head. Insert the umbrella on the crown.

Step 9: use the other toothpick to carve out the eyes.

Decorate your Ganesha however you like.



YOUR GANESHA IS READY



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Instructions for Sri Ganesha Visarjanam/Samyojanam/Immersion event at Home

After the BYOG Puja, please keep the Ganesha at home and do daily puja till Ganesh Chaturthi and then you can either keep it in the house or choose to do Visarjanam (immersion of Ganesha in water). This is more environmentally friendly to the water sources near the SSVT. *We request that devotees do the Visarjanam/Samyojanam/Immersion function at their homes instead of bring the vigraha to the temple and help in preserving the environment around the temple.*

The significance of Visarjanam, more aptly called Samyojanam, is an act when Ganesha made of clay from the lake bed is returned back to the same place where it came from.

If you choose the latter, then follow the rest of the steps. Before immersing Idol of *Shri* Ganesh the *uttaranga puja* (Concluding ritualistic worship) is performed.

Uttarpuja means bidding farewell to *Shri* Ganesh with due reverence. which involves

1. Uttara Puja (thru the week and also before visarjanam/samyojanam)

- a. *Achamanam* (Take 3 sips of water from a spoon chanting one name each time: *keshavaya svaha; narayanaya svaha and madhavaya svaha*)
- b. *Samkalpam* (mentally resolve to do the puja without distractions)
- c. *Light lamps* (oil or switch on electric lamps)
- d. *Chandana arpanam* (Offering *gandha* [Sandalwood paste]),
- e. *Akshata arpanam* (Offering *akshata*). Rice mixed with *haldi*; this can also substitute if flowers are not available
- f. *Pushparpanam* (Offering flowers),
- g. *Haridra kumkuma arpanam* (Offering *haldi* [Turmeric powder] & *kumkum* [Saffron]),
- h. *Archana* with 16 names of Ganesha (attached)
- i. *Dhoopa-deepa darshanam* (Lighting frankincense and a lamp)
- j. *Naivedyam*. Offer freshly prepared special items AND / OR FRUITS, NUTS (Variation: *Haldi* and *kumkum* are offered along with the *gandham*.)
- k. Thereafter, *Arati* should be performed and the worship concluded by offering *mantra-pushpanjali*. One can sing *Ganapathy stotrams* or *Rajadi rajaya.. mantra* or *Jai jagadisha hare...*

2. On the day of Visarjanam



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After Uttara puja, please perform this step.

- After Arati, Everyone should offer akshata onto Shri Ganapati's hand and move the Idol a little with the right hand. One can sing Ganapathy stotrams or Rajadi rajaya.. mantra or Jai jagadisha hare...
- After the *uttarpuja* carry the idol in the backyard or balcony. (If no balcony or patio you can do it inside the house)
 - a. Take a large size tub or bucket, fill it with water and immerse the idol of Shree Ganesh in the tub or the bucket.
 - b. Let the idol dissolve completely in the tub or the bucket.
 - c. Once the idol is completely dissolved, pour the water from the bucket into *sāttvik* plants or trees, like *tulsī*, etc. so that we do not step on this water.



There are no specific Ganesh Visarjan mantras. The only chant that is done is '*Ganpati Bappa Moriya, Mangal Murti Moriya*'.

You can also chant this prayer

*Mushikavaahana modaka hastha,
Chaamara karna vilambitha sutra,
Vaamana rupa maheshwara putra,
Vighna vinaayaka paada namasthe*

O Vinayaka! The remover of all obstacles, the son of Lord Shiva, with a form which is very short, with mouse as Thy vehicle, with sweet pudding in hand, with wide ears and long hanging trunk, I prostrate at Thy lotus-like Feet!