

On-line and DVD Classes with Maureen Carlson

The Santa Playshop: How it Works

Thanks for joining me for the Santa Playshop class. I'll do my best to make it a friendly, informative, creative class with the personal touch of an in-person class. Ready?



Here's how it works:

Step 1. REGISTER: Once you've registered, you'll receive an e-mail confirmation along with a link to a private Santa Playshop webpage. On this webpage you can read answers to frequently-asked-questions, post your own questions and see photos of Santas that have been shared by members of the class.

Step 2. OPEN THE PDF FILES ON THE SANTA PLAYSHOP WEBPAGE: Included on the private webpage will be 4 PDF files: (1) a copy of this How It Works letter, (2) an Outline and Basic Supply List, (3) A Recommended Book List, and (4) the Santa Playshop Clothing Patterns.



Step 3. IMAGINE: When you are ready to watch the videos, imagine that I'll greet you just beyond the first button click. Press the button and with a *swirl* and a *flash* you'll be magically transported to the virtual world of the Maureen Carlson Studio in Jordan, Minnesota, USA, and you won't even have to buy air tickets!

Perhaps it won't be summer when you arrive, but we'll pretend that it is! That's the joy of imagination! Ah, the gardens around Maureen's will be flourishing! The morning glories will be in full bloom and you may even hear a Kingfisher with its raucous call as it torpedoes down the river. If you have time you can stroll along the stepping stone path and say hello to the little wee folk, look under the fern for the guardian toad and rest a bit on one of the garden benches.



Once back inside you can choose a table space, get out your things and settle in to enjoy the class.

Step 4. WATCH the VIDEOS:

BY DVD: If you ordered the DVD version of the class, you'll receive 2 DVDs via mail. The video segments are listed in the Outline and Basic Supply List pdf file.

BY ON-LINE VIEWING: If you ordered the on-line version, you'll receive an invitation to watch the videos on Vimeo.com. Look for this invitation in your email in-box.

Step 4. ASK QUESTIONS. SHARE PHOTOS: One of the best parts of a class is communication with fellow students. That's a bit hard in an on-line or DVD class, but the private Santa Playshop webpage is one place to connect with what other students are thinking and doing. Are you stuck? Do you have a suggestion for another way to solve a construction problem? Have you found a great supply resource? Use the website link to send me those comments. Send photos of you and your work, too. I want to know who you are!



5. WHAT'S REQUIRED OF YOU FOR THIS CLASS:

- A. **FOR ON-LINE VIEWING:** A high-speed internet connection is recommended as the video files may be quite large.
- B. **FOR DVD VIEWING:** DVDs can be viewed on either a TV or computer.
- C. **Working knowledge of your computer, how to download files to your computer and how to open files.** Files will be in PDF format. If you don't have a program on your computer for opening pdf files, a free Adobe Acrobat Reader program is available on-line from Adobe.com.
- D. **Access to polymer clay.** You might also use an alternative clay, though the instruction features polymer clay. You don't have to be an expert as the **BASIC STARTER VIDEOS** give instructions.
- E. **Basic sewing skills.** A sewing machine is not essential but will definitely save time. **OPTION:** the help of someone who can work along with you on this part.
- F. **Gathering of the supplies.** They are listed on the Outline and Basic Supply List pdf file.



I think that's it for now! If I think of anything else I'll check back in. I'm not far away ... as close as your computer screen and just on the other side of imagination,



Maureen Carlson