

How to take a Baby Footprint

First gather together everything you will need:

Paint

The Bisque (Pre-Fired Pottery) Item you are putting the print on

A Brush to paint your baby's foot

A Small Plate to put the paint on

A Bowl of Warm Water and a sponge/cloth to wash Baby's foot after taking the print (Do not use baby wipes)

And of course; Your Baby!

Before you start you may want to mark on your Bisque where the feet are to be positioned to ensure you get them where you want them. You can do this with an ordinary pencil. Do not worry about any pencil marks or pencil smudges as these will all burn off when the item is fired so you will not see them at all. To take the print it is best if you can sit your baby on someone's knee or in a high chair is very difficult to do it whilst the baby is in a lying position. Hold the baby's foot and gently paint the underneath, ensuring you get the tip of the toes. Paint in a backward and forward motion rather than dabbing the paint on. The paint must not be too thin that you can see through, nor too thick that it is dripping off! A nice even coat is what you are looking for.



Once painted, hold the baby's foot with your thumb around the heel and your first finger over the toes, this way, when you go to take the print you can guide the toes down onto the Bisque. Holding the Bisque in your other hand bring the Bisque to the foot, do not try to take the foot to the Bisque as you may hurt the baby. You may find your baby crunches his/her toes up, in which case hold off for a few seconds until the baby relaxes

When you are ready, line up where the foot is to be positioned and gently press the foot onto the bisque making sure the toes all touch the bisque.



Do not use force as this will be uncomfortable for the baby who will pull the foot away and may smudge the print. You do not need to hold the foot on for a long time either, just simply put the foot on and then pull the Bisque away.



Clean and dry the baby's foot before you do the other one in case the baby touches the Bisque with it whilst taking the other footprint. Apply the same principle for the second foot.



Do not worry if the print is slightly smudged as I will clean it up for you. The main thing you need to ensure is that you have the basic shape and 5 toes! If for any reason you are unhappy with the print taken, you can easily remove the paint with a sponge and cold water and start again. If you have any problems or need more help and advice, please do not hesitate to contact Jo at The Pottery & Craft Studio on 020 8398 6681