

## **Episode 2: Making the Mouth and Nostrils 1**

Description: In this lesson, you will learn how to make the nostrils and the nose of a bear. This can often be the most challenging part of the process, so allow me to share some tips and tricks!

### **Transcript:**

In this lesson, you're going to learn how to make the nose and the mouth. I think making the nose and the mouth is actually the trickiest part. So I like to take my time when I do it. Sometimes I have to take it apart and start again. I usually start by making the tip of the nose first, the middle part. How animals make their lips, the upper lip is divided in two. So now I'm going to make each part of the upper lip. Now that I made the rough shape, I need to close it. Now I'm going to go and put cardboard here. Now I have left this little part, and we can see the structure through it, and I don't like that, so I'm going to hide that. Now we're going to make the nostrils. We have a piece of cardboard like this. Give it the usual bending, but you're going to bend the end more like this. Our bear here has pretty wide nostrils, his nose is almost as wide as the rest of the muzzle. This is a little too large, and I'm going to cut it here and here to make it a bit more round. Since it's too large, I'm gonna make it thinner and shorter. So this is more the shape that I want. All right, so now it's time to glue. I want this end more pointy. I need to stick this part, and we're going to do the same on the other side. We don't want to have any holes, so we're going to fill up the cavities of the nose. This part is a little harder. You'll need to make really small pieces of cardboard, or give it a different shape. I like to make a triangle shape when I need to make a very tight bend like this. I will cut a piece in diagonal because I will need a bigger part to fill up the nose, but I don't want to hide the details I made on the outside. In this case, this is ideal. This is supposed to be a very organic process. You're not supposed to do it exactly like me, but since you're following an organic shape pretty much, you'll probably find different ways to do it, as long as the shape in the end is what you want. So now there's still holes to fill up in the back. Take a look at your sculpture and try to make it look the same. Yeah, so now there's still holes to fill up in the back. Take a look at your sculpture and try to make it look the same. That's it, now you have a nose.

**Important Screenshots:**

Front view of 3D model with first step complete for making nose →



Front view of 3D model with all details completed for building the nose ↓



## Episode 3: Making the Mouth and Nostrils 2

Description: Now, I will progress to the mouth. This is a good opportunity to experiment a little. How can you play with the mouth to reflect your animal's personality? Let me show you!

### Transcript:

Now the mouth. So you will need a thin piece of cardboard. I'm showing this on the table, but it could be against the wall. Do it the way you need to do it. We will make this smile. This is where you can decide to give him a smile or a longer grin, a longer opening on the side, or a smaller one. It's really up to you. Here I like to give him a little smile like this. This part is sticking out, so I'm going to cut it. Now, put some glue at the tip. It can come out a little bit like this, or it can stick inside. It doesn't really matter. Now, with another piece of cardboard, you're going to insert it in it and glue it. Now you're going to fill up those holes. And just like for the nostril, this part is the trickiest. You're going to make a triangle-like piece, bend it at the end like this, and bend it in the other direction. You can see the shape of the mouth pretty well. You just need to fill up the space, and here, the smaller the detail, the smaller the piece of cardboard should be. Now you have one side of the mouth. You need to make the other side. I wanted to make him smile. So if something is in the way, cut that part. There you go, have a mouth. In the next lesson, you'll learn how to make the ears.

**Important Screenshots:** Side profile of 3D model with mouth complete



Front view of 3D model with mouth and nose complete



## Episode 4: Making the Ears

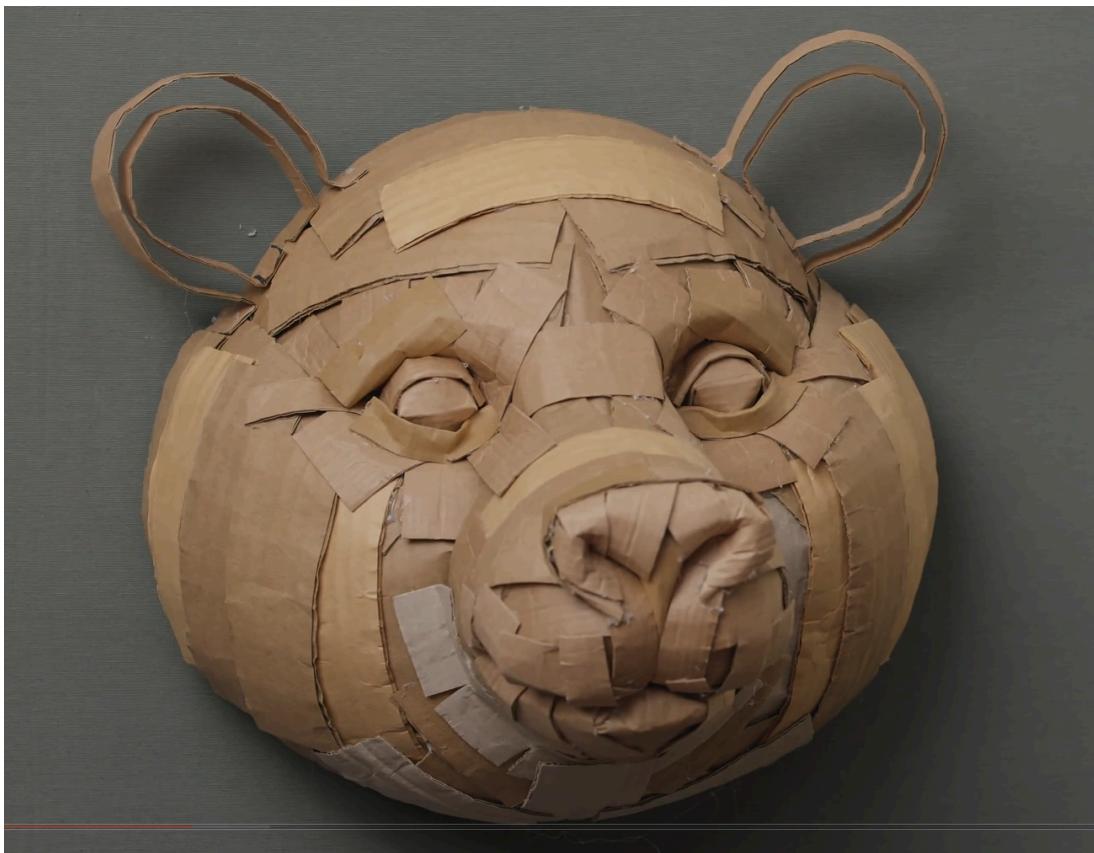
Description: To conclude this unit, I will show you how to approach the ears of your structure by constructing the ears of my bear!

### Transcript:

In this lesson, you're going to learn how to make the ears. To make the ears, you're going to need a thinner strip of cardboard. You can use your model to decide where exactly you put them. On the model here, they're not exactly above the eyes, but a little bit on the side. You can also help yourself with the measurements you took earlier; we said that the ears were eight centimeters high. So here we are, that's the right size. I used a previous year to make it exactly the same. Now that you have your two outer shapes, you're going to make the inside shape. You can cut the second strip because it's more, listening things. I'm going to continue work on the table, and now I'm going to make the thickness of the ears. I'm going to start by the inside of the ear, and I want to make it thicker than the flat surface, the surface that's going to sit on the wall. For the thickness of the ear, you can attach it to the back of the sculpture. I like to secure the width of the contour of the ear. Now do the other side. If the thickness is not the same as the first ear and it annoys you a little bit, cut it and glue it. This is the beauty of this process. That's it, same thing here. Now you're going to fill up your sheets. If you need to make this part against a wall, it works as well as long as you can see your sculpture from the front, so you can see if it's symmetrical or not. Because it is a pretty small surface, I'm using really tiny pieces of

cardboard. Sometimes when you glue cardboard on top of each other, it creates thickness that you don't want there. So the least cardboard added on top of each other, the better. When I take a small piece, I always put the glue on the side so it doesn't cover too much of the previous piece. This will be particularly important when we do the contour of the ears. For that part, it will be important to not place the cardboard too much on top of it, but really on each extremity. Otherwise it won't look good. It will look like certain areas are thicker than others, and this is not the look you want. So all right, I'm going to do the other side. Now it's time to make the contour of the ears. I'm cutting the pieces very small. When I'm gluing these little pieces of cardboard, I don't want them to stick out on the other side of this piece of cardboard. So I started here, and I end it inside like this. Now I want it to sit a little better on the head, so I'm going to put little pieces of cardboard here that'll join them together. It makes it prettier because it doesn't bend. I'm going to try to open it up a little bit. There you go. Now it works. I'm going to make it a little shorter. So now it might look finished, but it's not finished. You need to make the back of the ears. I don't do full strips of cardboard because it usually does not give me the shape I want. I really want to follow the guidelines I gave myself with the strips of cardboard. If I do a long strip that covers the ears, the side of the cardboard that will stick out will show too much. The idea of the project is to do a sculpture that makes you forget that I'm using cardboard. It's important to glue this part really well, because this is the part that you will see. If it's unglued and it sticks out, you'll see it when you look at the sculpture from the front. I think now we have ears. Now that the cardboard part is finished, I'm going to show you how to varnish in the next lesson.

**Important Screenshots:** Front view of 3D model with the skeleton of the ear complete

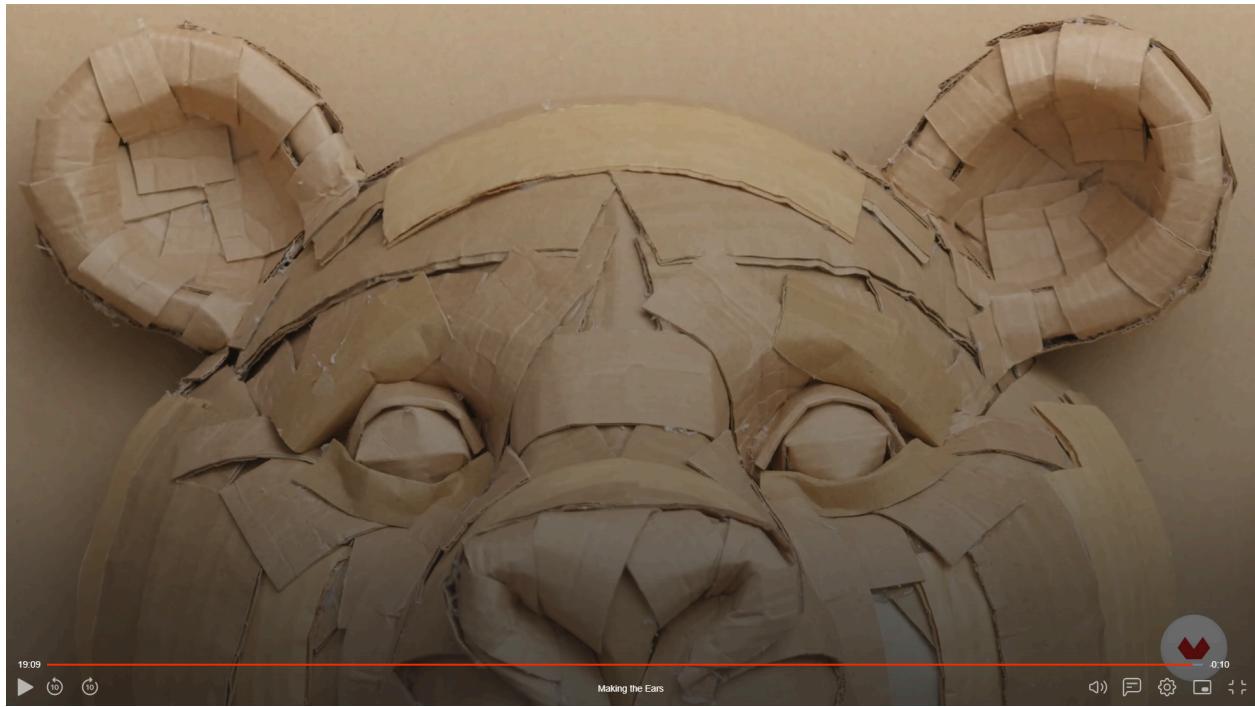


Angled view of 3D model with ears completed



Top view of 3D model with ears completed





Front view of final 3D model with ears fully complete

## **Unit 5: Coloring and Varnishing**

Description: By now, your model should be really taking shape! In this unit, you will apply the finishing touches, giving color to your sculpture and varnishing it.

### **Episode 1: How to Varnish and Take Care of the Sculpture**

Description: In this lesson, I will guide you in making the final adjustments to your artwork. You will learn how to apply varnish.

#### **Transcript:**

In this lesson, I'm going to show you how to varnish your sculpture. The varnish you choose should always be water-based. I like to use a varnish that's glossy because it makes the sculpture shine and it gives this finished look that I like. When you varnish, you should always be careful to not leave drips, because it will leave a little white sheen. So you want to make sure it's really applied evenly throughout the sculpture. If your varnish is too thick and it doesn't apply evenly, since it's water-based, you can always add some water to thin it. I use a small brush because it helps to not make drips; the surface is so textured that the varnish tends to make drips in the corners of the cardboard and stuff. So I like to use a smaller brush. When you're done with the first coat, you have to wait until it dries. It usually doesn't take too long, and then you can apply the second coat. I like to apply a second coat because that way I make sure I have not forgotten any area. I think it goes without saying that you shouldn't hang that sculpture in the bathroom. I mean, you could, but I don't know how long it will last. This is a sculpture that

will be sensitive to humidity. It also tends to sometimes get a little dusty like anything else. When the sculpture gets dirty, I only use a little rag to clean it. I find that, surprisingly enough, my sculptures last a long time. So far, the sculptures I made 10 years ago are still strong. It has happened that I made really big sculptures and they had accidents, like they fell or they broke, and it was always easy to fix because it's cardboard. You just rip the part that's broken and then add some new cardboard and re-varnish it. So I think it's a good product to keep for a while. For the first project, I recommend that you do something about this size, maybe a little bigger or smaller, but not two meters tall. I learned the hard way that you need to build a really good structure inside if you're going to make it completely in cardboard. If you put your sculpture in front of a window, there's going to be the sun and UV light on it, and it might change color, which I personally like because it shows that the sculpture is aging. It's quite pretty when the cardboard becomes a little bit more yellow. If you don't want this kind of change, then you might want to keep it in an area that's not directly under sunlight. And this goes for any artwork. This is the final step for the sculpture, but in the next lesson, I'm going to show you how to paint them if you want to.

**Important Screenshots:** Top view of final 3D model





Front view of final 3D model with all features complete

## Episode 2: How to Color the Sculpture

Description: In this lesson, I will teach you how to add color to your sculpture! This is an optional step, but it can really elevate your project.

### Transcript:

In this lesson, I'm going to show you how to add color to your sculpture. This step is optional, and I like to do it before I put the varnish on the sculpture. I used an acrylic paint, always water-based, and since I'm making a panda, I'm going to paint his eyes, his ears and his nose black. I always paint little strips of cardboard. It helps to divide the area and make it cleaner and nicer. I used to paint the cardboard right away, and as I'm building the sculpture, I would use the painted strips of cardboard to create the eyes, for example, or to do whatever I wanted to do. I don't do this anymore because I find that when there's paint on the cardboard, the glue doesn't stick as well to the cardboard because it's less porous. So what I do is limit the amount of

already painted strips. I will paint the eyes, for example, and then I would add the little painted strips to make it nice around it. Now that I've painted all the areas I want, I'm going to glue some black cardboard around them. When I glue black cardboard around the areas I painted, it makes it cleaner and nicer. I'm almost finished with the nose, but there's an area I don't really like. I like when it's a bit less busy. It feels too busy for my taste. So I'm going to add a little piece of cardboard on top of it to make it cleaner. This is a question of taste. You don't need to do that. Also, because the paint was not exactly dry when I started gluing, I smeared some black on the areas I didn't want black. That is really easy to fix. You just have to glue some more cardboard on top of that area and it'll be all fine. Now I am done with my painting, and normally I would be ready to varnish it. You can use any color you want, but if you use white, I have some tips to give you. White tends to become yellow with time, so I like to use a primer and then put a glossy white paint on top of it. I do not varnish on top of the white because that also makes it yellow. The cardboard is not acid-free. Your colors might change with time, with black, with red, with most colors it doesn't matter, but with white, it will show. So do not put varnish on white. Put a primer and use a glossy white acrylic paint. Sometimes I also use the color that's directly on the cardboard I find in the street. If you find something that you like, you can pick it up in the street. Then keep the area, the color, the brand that you like, and use it instead of paint on your sculpture. This was the final lesson. In the next video, I will recap everything we saw and give you some tips.

**Important Screenshots:** Front view of 3D model in color



Top view of final 3D model in color



### Final Remarks

Thank you for taking this class. I hope it was enlightening. In this video, I'll do a quick recap of the course and give you final tips: choose a 3D model, don't forget to keep it with you all the time. Draw the sketch, measure it, and make sure you know where you're going to install it so you can measure it and choose the right scale. Make your structure, the more structure you make, the stronger your sculpture will be. Use the structure to place the first strips of cardboard, and don't forget to always look at your model to know what you're doing. Making the details can be quite tricky, but don't worry, you can always cut it out and start again when you're not satisfied with what you made. When you varnish, I always like to use a smaller brush to make sure I don't leave drips of varnish around my sculpture. I can't wait to see your projects. Make sure you share them on the forum and give feedback to each other. Bye.