Baby Sneakers

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Soles are cut 1/8" thick, all other pieces are cut 1/16" thick. Sneaker parts can be embellished as desired then attached to the soles with gum glue. Use fiberfill to support the pieces as needed until the sneakers are dry.

- 1. Cut 2 soles and 2 toe pieces from white gumpaste, flipping the patterns over to make a left and right shoe.
- 2. Cut 2 uppers, 2 tongue pieces and 2 back tabs from colored gumpaste. Flip the tongue pattern over so it will fit the sole of the right shoe.
- 3. Cut 2 front toe strips and 2 back shoe strips from white gumpaste.
- 4. Use a stitching wheel to add stitching lines as indicated on pattern pieces. Cut shoelace holes using a #7 decorating tip. Try to match holes up evenly on both sides.
- 5. Glue the white toe piece on top of the tongue piece, lining up at the bottom edge.
- 6. Use a 2 1/2" Styrofoam ball to help shape the toe area of the sneaker. While the paste is still soft, attach to the sole with gumglue. Do not allow it to dry over the ball. Stuff a small amount of fiberfill in the toe to help hold its rounded shape until dry.

- 7. Starting at the center back of the sole, attach the upper to the sole. Use a small amount of gumglue to attach the front edges of the upper to the toe area as needed.
- 8. Attach the front toe strip to the front of the shoe with the stitching along the top.
- 9. Use a 7" piece of 18g wire (or similar) to create an indention lengthwise down the center of the shoe strip, as indicated on the pattern. Attach strip to shoe, ensuring each end overlaps the ends of the front toe strip slightly. After the shoe has dried, use this indentation as a guide for drawing the characteristic stripe around the bottom of the sneaker.
- 10. Fold the back tab in half and attach to the center back of the shoe.
- 11. Cut shoelaces from thin strips of white gumpaste. Instead of attempting to "lace" the shoes, work with short lengths that are only long enough to go from one set of lace holes to another. Pinch the ends and insert the lace sections in the holes securing with a little gumglue. Note: It is easier to add the shoe laces after the sneakers have dried. Shoes can be left "untied", with a bow or without. Consider attaching the ends of the laces to the shoe somewhere to avoid breaking the ends of the laces.



