

HOW TO MAKE MARSHMALLOW BUDDIES

Once you have learned to make one Buddy you can make all Buddies. The concept is the same, you just change the theme. Below are some instructions - I know that it looks "wordy" but after the demonstration it will be crystal clear.

You first need the GIANT Marshmallows. We have the GIANT Marshmallows at A & J. If you cannot find them where you live we will be happy to ship them to you.

If your Buddy will need molded chocolate pieces, complete all necessary pieces so that you are ready to go when your marshmallow is dipped and dry. You will also need royal icing eyes and an appropriate colored M&M or Skittles that are used for the nose. Assemble any needed sprinkles that you are going to use for hail and other accessory that will bring your Buddy to life.

Remove the Marshmallow from the bag. If it is not round enough you can shape them in your hands by rolling them between your hands. When it is dipped in chocolate that will also help shape them.

To dip the marshmallow you will need several things. Heavy, long sucker sticks, a plastic 8oz cup and appropriate colored chocolate. The stick serves two purposes. One it allows you to easily dip the chocolate and two, if your Buddies need a hat that is tall it provides support for the hat. Place the stick in the center of the marshmallow and push through. Push all the way through if your Buddy is going to wear a tall hat-half way through if the hat is going to sit directly on the marshmallow because you will remove the stick. Fill the cup 2/3 full of chocolate. Because of the size of the marshmallow, size of the cup and the amount of chocolate in the cup it will be perfect fit for a smooth dip. Push the marshmallow into the cup and you will see that the chocolate starts to envelop the marshmallow. When the marshmallow is completely enrobed in chocolate, pull it out of the cup, let excess chocolate drip off and use the top of the cup to remove excess from the bottom of the marshmallow by scraping the bottom on the lip of the cup. Set on waxed paper, remove stick if necessary and let dry.

You will be using chocolate like "glue". When gluing the eyes be sure that they are placed together, touching on another. If they are spaced far apart the Buddy can take on a "mean" look or can look kind of "spacey". The nose is then glued directly under the eyes, touching them. If you are using feet together, place feet, slightly turned out at the toes. Glue them together so that they are one unit. If your buddy needs hair, brush the appropriate area where the hair is going to be with chocolate and place the sprinkles. I usually place the Buddy on a paper plate and pour the sprinkles on heavy and shake off the excess (which can be saved and reused). Be sure that you let his toes show. You can now attach the hat. If the hat is flat to the marshmallow, apply glue to the hat and place on top of marshmallow, If the hat is going to stand up, place glue to the center of the hat and to the stick and glue together. Sometimes this has to be reinforced with more glue, but eventually it will hold.

Let everything dry completely, don't rush the drying period. Once everything is dry I place the Buddy on a round 3 1/2" round board that I have foiled in an appropriate color. I place in a 3 lb. cello bag and tie with appropriate ribbon.

That's it-it's all done-and it's cute.

ENJOY!