

PME[®]



Making the most of
PME MODELLING TOOLS

PME Tool Caddy contains

- PME1 Bone
- PME2 Blade & Shell
- PME3 Ball
- PME4 Scallop & Comb
- PME5 Serrated & Taper Cones
- PME6 Scriber Needle
- PME6T Scriber Needle Thick
- PME7 Craft Knife
- PME8 Taper Cones 5/6 Star
- PME9 Bulbulous Tool
- PME10 Flower / Leaf Shaper
- CW426 Cutter Wheels
- DW420 Design Wheeler
- QT425 Quilting Tool
- 1 Scalpel Blade
- 1 Ribbon Insertion Blade



Behind the scenes at **PME**®

In today's world of Cake Decorating and Baking we are inclined to take our tools and equipment for granted and probably don't stop to think of the background stories that inspired and developed their innovation.

Most modelling tools are classic shapes that have been used by sculptors and artists for centuries and were made using whatever materials came to hand.

Many started life as simple bone or wooden shapes and were then gradually honed into the designs that we now use and love and cannot manage without i.e. Bone Tool, Ball Tool and Shell Tool etc.

Of course time doesn't stand still and new ideas and concepts are always emerging and this is the story of three modelling tools that we now accept as basics.



PME Bulbulous Cone (PME 9) designed in 1988 Inspired by Ann Pickard

Ann Pickard has always been recognised for her modelling and to begin with 30+ years ago was using Wooden Lace Bobbins to add wonderful detail to her figures. Having been designed for lace the wood proved to be too soft and therefore easily damaged, so looking for something better she then went on to commission a local craftsman and wood turner to make them from Walnut.

Having tried, tested and sold the lace bobbins to her students it became obvious that this was a great concept and therefore following conversations with Malcom Craig an engineer and the original owner of PME she provided him with a sample of her Walnut

Bobbins. The tooling was made and the Bulbulous Cone was created and manufactured at the PME factory in Harrow, England.

At classes and exhibitions Ann can often be heard to say "that the two things she would take to a desert island would be her Lipstick and the PME Bulbulous Cone modelling tool".





PME Quilting Tool and Cutting Wheel (QT425 & CW426) designed in 1997 Inspired by Nadene Hurst

Nadene Hurst is probably best known for her Royal Icing and as an International author examples of her work can be found in many publications. For many years she was also a regular demonstrator for PME and a great supporter of the PME Supatubes. So when she was looking to write a new book called 'Sugar Quilting', Malcom Craig at PME was the obvious choice to help develop the tools that she required.

Nadene had been using a specialist tool designed to remove transfers and lettering but wanted something that could become available to everyone.

Nadene's original inspired tool combined the Quilting Tool and a Cutting Wheel and it was some time later that they were developed into two separate Modelling Tools.



Tips & Ideas

*Bulbous Cone -
ideal for modelling and frilling*

*Quilting Tool -
used to create stitch detail.*

*Cutting Wheels -
for all those intricate cut shapes*

*A good quality modelling tool
should have a smooth finish and
not tear the paste*

*The wheels should move easily
and not wobble*

*The heads of modelling tools
should not fall out or be easily
removed*

Cupping · Embossing · Curving

What would we do without them? But that then begs the question; once we have them do we know how to use them?

The names of modelling tools often describe the shape of the tool but that doesn't necessarily

explain their use, so over the next few issues we will endeavour to show and explain some of their many uses.



Bone Tool PME 1

This double ended tool has the same shape at both ends, the only difference being in the size. For most people the Bone Tool is automatically associated with flowers and is used to soften the edges of the petals.

Softening the Edges of Petals



Using just the heel of the modelling tool, place it half on and half off the paste. Pressing firmly, carefully run the tool around the outside edge to thin and soften the edge.

Curving Petals (daisies etc)



Using just the end of the modelling tool, place it at the tip of the petal. Press firmly as you draw the tool towards the centre of the flower.

Embossing



Using the tip and the back of the modelling tool, emboss into the paste as required.



Shell and Blade PME 2

This tool has two very distinctly different shaped designs; hence we will look at them separately.

Shell - primarily used for embossing



Borders

Hold the tool flat to the surface and press down firmly. Repeat the design using an even pressure.

Textured Grass Effects

Mould a sausage of paste and place in position on the cake. Holding the tool upright, press firmly into the paste whilst drawing the tool upwards and



away from the sausage shape. Don't worry if the tool cuts the paste occasionally as this will add to the interest.



Modelling Effects

Duck - ideal for the feet
Birds - wings

Blade - primarily used for cutting

Cutting

Using a conventional sharp knife to cut out shapes etc can easily mark or scratch your work top or rolling out board. Whereas the blade will cut cleanly but not mark the surface.



Embossing

It is often forgotten that both sides of the blade plus the tip are also great for embossing.



Ball Tool PME 3

This is another double ended tool that is very much associated with flowers.

Cupping Flowers (blossoms)

Place the tool in the centre of the flower and press down firmly. Remember that the tool has a large and small ball shape so be sure to choose the best size for the flower.



Cupping Petals

Place the tool upright in the centre of the petal and push down firmly. The tool can be rotated in a circular motion to increase the depth of cup.



Embossing

Circular Shape - Simply hold the tool upright and press into the paste.



Textures Details Scribing



Scallop & Comb PME 4

As the name implies this is another tool with two very different designs.

Scallop



This is sometimes known as the Smiley Face but is also great for a whole host of facial features simply embossed into the paste to create, mouths, eyebrows and ears.

Comb



Embossed textures

Hold the modelling tool either at an angle or straight up and press down to emboss or draw lines in the paste.



Serrated & Tapered Cone PME 5

Although both ends are cone shaped they are both very different designs.

Serrated Cone



Flower Centres

Mould a piece of paste into a ball or cone shape and holding the modelling tool up right press down firmly to create an eight pointed star. Move the modelling tool backwards and forwards to widen the shape into a trumpet.

Embossing

Use the emboss simple but effective designs. Stars - Emboss the tip into the paste.

Fans - Roll or press the side of the tool into the paste.



Tapered Cone

Hallow Cones

Mould a small piece of paste into a cone shape and insert the modelling tool to create a hallow cone.



Embossed Shapes

Hold the modelling tool either up right or at angle and press into the paste



Scriber Needle PME 6 & 6T

A scriber is one of those basic tools that once you have one you wondered how you managed without. PME 6 is a fine needle and PME6T a thick needle.

Scribing Patterns, Guidelines and Designs.

Place the pattern, template or divider onto the cake. Then use the scriber to mark or draw the required detail.

Remove the pattern and complete the design following the fine lines or dots as your guide



Removing Cutout Shapes

A scriber is ideal for removing all those cut-out and moulded shapes that just need a helping hand. Insert the tip of the scriber into the paste and gently ease the shape out. Cutters with high detail may benefit from teasing out the shape in more than one area.



Craft Knife PME 7

This durable craft knife has the option for not only replacement scalpel blades but an interchangeable ribbon insertion tool. Ideal for use across a number of different crafts and hobbies along with a variety of edible (and non-edible) pastes including: to trim away



excess sugarpaste when coating a board or cutting hand details in modelled figures, or intricate details in hand made stamens. The fine sharp, blade cuts paper without tearing ideal for creating templates.



Ribbon Insertion Blades



Push the flat end of the blade into the soft sugarpaste and make two even slits. Use the blade to ease a ribbon size strip of coloured paste from one slit to the other. Use on the top, sides or base board of a cake.

Frilling • Embossing • Veining



Tapered Cones 5/6 Star PME 8

A double ended tool with two different star shapes.

Embossing



It is often forgotten that this tool also makes a great embosser. Simply hold the tool upright or at angle and gently push into the paste.

Flower Centre



If you enjoy making flowers then this tool is a must have, as many flowers have a star shaped centre and with a choice of two different star shapes they are easy to create..



Bulbous Cone PME 9

This is the ideal tool for frilling the edges of paste a technique that is often used to create fabric effects, frilled layers and novelty cake details.

Frilling



Place the cone onto the paste and keeping it flat to the surface. Place a finger onto the cone and roll the tool backwards and forwards to create the frill.

Modelling

The cone is also a great embosser especially when making modelled figures.



Mexican Hat Flowers

Use the plain end as a mini rolling pin or stick to thin the paste.



Flower and Leaf Shaper PME 10

The ends of this tool are often referred to as a Veining Tool and Dresden Tool.

Veining

The Veining tool is the shaper of the two ends and is best used by simply placing the back of the tool onto the paste and drawing it through the paste to create an embossed line. Ideal for leaves, flowers and free hand designs.



Softening and Frilling

The wider end of the tool is the Dresden tool and again it is the back of the tool that works best. Gently slide the tool along the edge of the paste to thin, soften and frill as required.



Transferring and placing small sugar pearls

The use of sugarpaste has become extremely popular but handling and placing them on a cake can be difficult, so this technique may help. Using the back of the Dresden tool lightly wipe it into either Petal Base or a white vegetable fat and then simply touch it



3 WHEELS IN 1 TOOL

Design Wheeler PME DW420

This handy tool contains three different shaped/design wheels and to change the wheel simply remove and pop in your chosen design. Ideal for use with Sugarpaste, Gumpaste, Modelling Paste, Almond Paste and Modelling Chocolate.



Embossing using a Rolling Wheel



Lightly hold the handle and applying an even pressure, push the wheel across the paste to create the required design. The plain wheel is often used as a base design and then decorated using either the stitch or serrated wheels.

Embossing using a Flat Wheel

It is often forgotten that the wheel can be used in the same way as a classic embosser and is great for trimming the edges of cut shapes and boards. Simply turn the wheel onto its side and push firmly into the edge of the paste.



Creative Ideas



Stitch Wheel
Ideal for adding stitching detail to fabric effects, sugar models and fun designs.



Serrated Wheel
This wheel has added advantage of being able to cut as well as emboss, simply press firmly to use as a cutter. The serrated design is wonderful for adding extra detail, creating a piqué cut edge and design effects.

Plain Wheel
Perfect for quilted fabric effects, classic trellis and creative designs.



Veining · Cutting · Textures

Quilting Tool PME QT425

This double end tool combines a fine stitch wheel with a veining tool.

Stitch Wheel



Stitches
lightly hold the handle and applying an even pressure roll the wheel across the paste to create a stitched effect. Ideal for sugar fabric effects and creating textures.



Embossing
lay the wheel on its side and press firmly into the edge of the paste.

Veining Tool



Using the back of the modelling tool draw the tool across the paste to create a strong veining effect, ideal for leaves, flowers and freehand designs.



Cutting Wheels CW426

Two different sized cutting wheels that are ideal for use with a wide variety of pastes and that will not cut your work surface. Hold the handle lightly and simply roll the wheel across the paste pressing firmly.

