

Thomas Kinkade Santa Ornament Repair

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Back at the beginning of August, I purchased this beautiful Santa ornament from the Thomas Kinkade Old World Santas collection by Ashton Drake.

He's just beautiful, featuring a Kinkade painting on his robes, as do all the ornaments in the series.

I already own this particular one, but since my friend loves pretty Santa ornaments, I planned to pass him along to her.

Unfortunately, instead of putting my pretty Santa carefully away as soon as I brought him home, I left him standing on DH's desk, where – you guessed it -- he was knocked over and broken. It wasn't even Scampers' doing this time!



Fortunately, the break wasn't too serious, and I was pretty sure I could repair it.



In the accident, my Santa's arm was knocked loose. This part should be an easy fix, since the arm was originally made as a separate piece and glued in place.

A little more serious, though, is the damage to his hand. Like many commercial ornaments these days, my Santa is made of resin, a notoriously brittle material that is easily shattered.



Santa's fingers and thumb were snapped off in the fall; we found the fingers, but the thumb was so small that we were unable to recover it.

I can glue the fingers back in place, but I'll have to reconstruct the thumb, which will take only the teeniest amount of material.

I'm using a tiny dab of clay, which I will mould and glue in place.



The clay is an air-dry type that I purchased at the dollar store. For gluing, I'll be using Aleene's tacky glue.

Although there may be a better alternative out there, I haven't found it. I've tried GOOP, E6000, Barge cement, and Magna-tac, but so far I have found that tacky glue works well for repairing resin ornaments.



Santa's thumb is looking pretty good: I shaped it and glued it in position with tacky glue, then glued the fingers back in place. Once the clay has dried, I can paint the hand so the repair won't be so visible.



With the thumb repaired and painted, the arm is ready to be re-attached. This will be a fairly easy matter since it was a separate piece to begin with. It just needs to be re-glued and fitted into position.



DH was feeling kind of responsible for the break, so naturally he's much relieved to see Santa back in one piece. The repair is hardly noticeable, and come December, Santa will be ready to move to his new home.

