

## Project of the Week: Silver Bisque Bead

16<sup>th</sup> February 2012

### What you need:

Agate/metal burnisher or tumbler polisher  
Badger Balm  
Bisque bead  
Clayshaper  
Kiln  
Paintbrush and cup of water  
Pipe cleaner  
PMC3 Paste (1 Paste pot covers approximately 3 beads of 2cm in length)  
Polystyrene block  
Rubber block  
Sandpaper  
Stainless steel brush  
Work mat or Teflon



All items above are available from The PMC Studio, [www.thepmcstudio.com](http://www.thepmcstudio.com), tel. 01494 774428. A kiln firing service is available at the PMC Studio. See our website or call us for further details.

### Step 1

Open your paste pot and coat the inside of the hole with 3-4 coats of paste. Leave it to dry then insert a pipe cleaner into the bead and continue to coat the outside of the bead with 3-4 coats of paste. Leave the bead to dry between each coat by sticking the pipe cleaner into a block of polystyrene.

### Step 2

Decorate the bead as required using lump clay embellishments or, as in the picture above, PMC syringe. Refine and sand your bead until the finish is ready for firing. Remove the pipe cleaner before firing.

### Step 3

Fire using a kiln only- (600C/45mins).  
If using the Evenheat Set-Pro kiln fire on the preset PMC3 Slow Programme  
If using the Creative metal Clay Kiln, fire on Programme 4.

### Step 4

Place the fired piece on a rubber block to for support and use a stainless steel brush to polish. To achieve a high shine finish, continue using a burnisher or place in a tumbler polisher with mixed stainless steel shot and 1/3 teaspoon of tumbler soap.  
Aftercare: Polish using silver polish and a soft cloth.

### Tips

- If a piece of paste chips off you can add more and re-fire anytime.
- If polishing using a tumbler, put a piece of pipe cleaner into the hole to avoid the shot getting stuck inside