

## Project of the Week: Copper Heart Earring set

17<sup>th</sup> November 2011

### What you need:

Brass brush  
Brass plate: Small flowers  
Clay shaper  
Creative Copper 20g  
Cutter: Heart set of 6  
Gas torch and firing block or kiln and kiln pillow  
Hand drill  
Jump rings  
Olive oil and olive oil dispenser  
Paintbrush and cup of water  
Picklean safety pickle  
Roller and Spacers  
Sandpaper  
Stud earrings with loop and scroll backs  
Teflon  
Tumbler



All items above are available from The PMC Studio, [www.thepmcstudio.com](http://www.thepmcstudio.com), tel. 01494 774428

### Step 1

Put some olive oil on your hands, roller and brass plate. Remove some Copper Clay from the pack and place it on the brass plate. Place the 2mm spacers either side of the Copper and use the roller to roll the clay flat. Cut out two hearts using the second smallest heart cutter in the set. Use the hand drill to drill a small hole into each of the pieces. Remember to allow for shrinkage of the hole when choosing a drill bit.

### Step 2

Use a clay shaper to remove excess clay and smooth the edges if required. Using a wet paint brush can also assist in smoothing the edges. Leave the pieces to dry for approximately 24 hours. Once dry use sandpaper to further refine the edges and back of the piece.

### Step 3

For best results always kiln fire - Kiln fire at 920C for 30 minutes

Fire using a butane gas torch: Wait for the binder to burn off and time for a minimum of 5 minutes from when the piece starts to glow orange.

### Step 4

Once your pieces are fired remove them from the kiln immediately and quench. Place your items in some pre-mixed Picklean solution and leave for at least 10 minutes. **We recommend tumbling your pieces for an hour using stainless steel shot and Picklean solution in warm water.** This method works best for removing all fire-scale. After tumbling you can give them a final brush with a brass brush to bring up the Copper shine.

### Step 5

Attach the jump rings through the pre-drilled holes in the heart as well as to the loop in the stud earrings.