

Project of the Week: FRAGILE earring set

24th November 2011

What you need:

Brass brush
Creative Copper Clay 20g
Fish hook ear wire and jump ring
Hand drill
Olive oil dispenser and olive oil
Paintbrush and cup of water
Picklean granules
Roller and spacers
Rubber block
Safety Cutter
Sandpaper
Texture mat- Going Places
Torch & block or Kiln
Tumbler polisher

All items are available from The PMC Studio, www.thepmcstudio.com, tel. 01494 774428



Step 1

Rub some olive oil on your hands and texture mat. Remove the Copper clay from the pack and place it on the rubber mat over the desired pattern (in this case- fragile handle with care). Place the spacers either side of the clay and roll it flat. Remove the clay from the texture mat and place on the Teflon. Cut out the pattern using a safety cutter. When cutting out the pattern leave a small amount of additional overhang on one edge. This will be where you drill a hole to attach the ear wires. Repeat this step for the second earring.

Step 2

Drill a hole in the additional overhanging clay (as shown above). Leave your pieces for 24hours to dry.

Step 3

Refine your pieces using the sandpaper and a paintbrush where necessary. Complete all the finishing touches at this stage. Your piece is now ready for firing.

Step 4

Heat the copper clay using the butane gas torch, again wait for the binder to burn off and time for a minimum of 5 minutes.

Evenheat Set-Pro Kiln- Creative Copper firing: Fire at a temperature of 920C for 30 minutes.

Creative metal clay kiln- setting 1.

Step 5

Quench the Fired Copper into some mixed Picklean solution. Picklean solution is created by mixing 2 tablespoons of Picklean granules with 200ml of hot/warm water. Leave the copper pieces in the solution for 10 minutes immediately after firing. After 10 minutes remove the pieces from the solution and brush them with a brass brush to remove the fire-scale. To achieve a high shine finish and remove further fire-scale place your pieces in a tumbler barrel with half a tablespoon of Picklean granules and 100ml of water. (DO NOT USE THIS SHOT AND BARRELL WITH SILVER CLAY).

Step 6

Use a jump ring to attach the copper pieces to the ear wires.