

Project of the Week: Valentine's Earring set

9th February 2012

What you need:

PMC3 6.3g silver
Creative Copper Clay 20g
Brass Plate- small flowers
Brass Plate- small pebbles
Texture mat- Persian Carpet
Cutters- small curved heart set of 4
Roller and 2 x 1.5mm spacers
Hand drill
Badger Balm
Paintbrush and cup of water
Sandpaper
To fire: Torch & block *or* Kiln
Picklean granules
Rubber block, Stainless steel brush and a brass brush
Agate/metal burnisher or tumbler polisher
Fish hook ear wire and jump ring



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

Step 1

Rub some badger balm on your hands, texture mat and brass plates. Remove the PMC from the pack and place it on the small pebbles brass plate. Place the spacers either side of the clay and roll the small flowers brass plate on top of the PMC. Use the smallest of the small curved cutter set to cut two hearts from the clay.

Step 2

Repeat the above with Creative Copper instead of PMC and roll the Persian carpet texture mat on top of the copper clay. Then cut two hearts out with the second largest small curved heart cutter.

Step 3

Drill a hole in each of the heart shapes in a similar position to that in the picture above. Refine each of the hearts using sandpaper, your paintbrush and some water. Leave the pieces to dry thoroughly. Note: Creative copper requires 3 times the amount of time to dry compared with PMC.

Step 4

Firing using a butane gas torch: Place on a Torch block. Gently heat the PMC pieces first using a Butane gas Torch, wait for the binder to burn off and time for a minimum of 2 minutes when the piece starts to glow orange. Quench in a cup of water. Then heat the copper clay using the butane gas torch, again wait for the binder to burn off and time for a minimum of 7 minutes. Evenheat Set-Pro Kiln- PMC firing: Fire on the preset PMC3 Fast Programme (700C/10mins). Evenheat Set-Pro Kiln- Creative Copper firing: Fire at a temperature of 920C for 30 minutes.

Step 5

Place 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 with a brass brush to remove the fire-scale. Tumble in mixed Picklean solution to remove stubborn fire-scale.

Step 6

Place the fired PMC piece on a rubber block and use the 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.

Step 7

Use a jump ring to connect the two hearts together. Use another jump ring to link the joined hearts and fish hook earring wires together. Repeat for the other earring.