

ART CLAY KIT: A HEART OF SILVER

This month Clair gets to test out a really fantastic Art Clay kit from the lovely people at Metal Clay. By Clair Wolfe

THE PRODUCT

The Heart of Silver Art Clay kit comes with everything you need to be able to create a beautiful fine silver heart pendant and a set of matching earrings.

WHAT DOES IT DO?

The kit shows you how to use basic clay skills to create really wearable jewellery. If you are new to the world of silver clay and think you will need a whole load of new and expensive tools, think again, if you have a gas hob or camping stove, you can use this kit.

WHAT IS INCLUDED?

The kit comes with nearly everything needed to get started straight away. A very generous sachet of Art Clay 7g, a two-sided acrylic work surface (one smooth, one textured), a paintbrush, firing mesh, a brass brush, a waxed length of necklace cord, stainless steel earring hooks and full instructions.

HOW GOOD ARE THE INSTRUCTIONS?

The instructions are easy to follow and straightforward, but did lack information

on firing times. However the website has a fantastic education section, where you can find out everything you need to about art clay.

WHAT ELSE WILL YOU NEED?

The other things needed are a small pot of water, a Badger balm or similar, or a drop of oil for your hands, and a heat source. The clay can be fired in a kiln, on a cooker hob (gas) or with a blowtorch.

HOW EASY IS IT TO USE?

It is really easy, surprisingly so. I didn't think I would be able to create a heart so easily; it is a really well-thought-out design, which will allow beginners to create something beautiful.

CAN IT BE ADDED TO?

This is a stand-alone product, but it will really open up the world of silver clay, making it not such a scary product to try. To continue creating you will only need to buy more clay.

OVERALL SCORE

This is a really fabulous kit, the heart design looks impressive, but it is very achievable, even by a complete novice. It is well priced and

would be a wonderful gift for someone crafty in your life. It has taught me a new way to look at silver clay and think of new designs I can try out with it. The only negative point I can find with this kit is the instruction booklet, Step 5 directs you to the firing instructions that come with the clay, however these don't describe the hob firing method either. But I did find all the firing instructions that I needed on the website. Also Step 7 directs you to assembly instructions, which I couldn't find. If the instruction leaflet had a little tweaking the score would be a definite 10/10

SCORE

★★★★★★★☆☆

COST

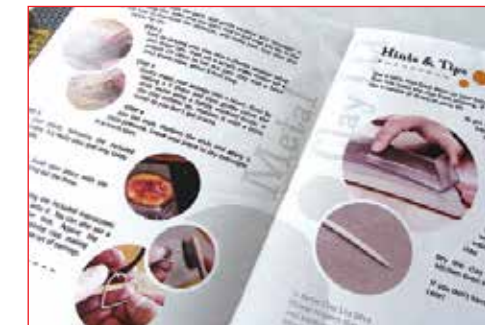
£19.50 (Inc. VAT)

RESOURCES

www.metalclay.co.uk



1. Contents



2. Instructions



3. Silver clay



4. Measuring clay



5. Prepping clay



6. Rolling clay



7. Rolling clay



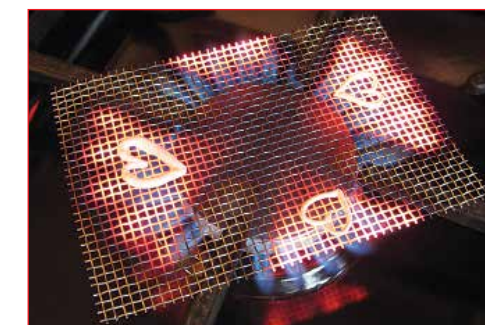
8. Shaping clay



9. Earrings



10. Drying



11. Firing



12. Brass brush



13. Results



14. Results