



Art Clay Types

A Must Keep

Product Review

Projects

by
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Art Clay looks and feels much like ordinary sculpting or porcelain clay. What makes Art Clay so fantastic is that it consists of extremely fine particles of pure metal (silver or gold), almost like dust, mixed up with a non-toxic organic binder. The binder burns out during firing, leaving you with a pure metal piece. Art Clay comes in several forms:

Art Clay Silver - 650 Clay

This clay needs the lowest firing temperature (650°C), and shrinks less than the other Art Clay forms. At this low temperature it can be fired with sterling silver (which would get firescale and can get brittle at higher temperatures). It can also be fired with dichroic glass and some natural stones. It shrinks around 8-9% by volume. Fire at 650°C for 30 minutes, or 780°C for 5 minutes. Use the higher temperature if the piece doesn't include sterling silver or glass. For extra strength you can fire your piece for longer. Also comes in a Paste and Syringe. Comes in 10, 20 and 50gm.

Art Clay Silver - 650 Paste

This thick cream-like paste version of the 650 clay is made for filling in cracks and gluing unfired pieces together, just like a ceramic slip. You can also use it to cover leaves, paper and similar to make a silver replica. Comes in 10 and 20gm.

Art Clay Silver - 650 Syringe

This softer version of the 650 clay comes in a syringe to make fine lines, dots and other decorations. It's thicker than paste so will hold its shape when extruded. It can be applied to a core shape which burns off during firing, creating a filigree or lace-like hollow form. It is great for surrounding and setting stones in the clay, and can also be used for repairs. Shrinkage 8-9%. Comes in 10gm, with 0, 1 or 3 tips.

Art Clay Silver - 650 Slow Dry

This brand new clay combines the lower firing temperature (650°C), with a slower drying time. This clay dries up to four times slower than the other clay types. This allows you to work with it for longer, without it cracking. The clay must be completely dried before firing, which will take a little longer than drying the other types. Leave your piece to dry in room temperature for 24 hours prior to firing. At this low temperature it can be fired with sterling silver (which would get firescale and can get brittle at higher temperatures), dichroic glass and some natural stones. Use with the normal Art Clay 650 Paste and Syringes. Comes in 10, 20 and 50gm.

Art Clay Silver - 650 Overlay Paste

This is the 650 clay in a water-based paste form, which has been formulated to use on glazed porcelain, ceramic and glass. After firing (temperature ranging from 650°C to 800°C), it will bond to the surface and won't come off. Comes in 15gm.

Art Clay Silver - Oil Paste

This oil based paste attaches to metal, so is used for repairing and fixing already fired pieces together, or for adding sterling or fine silver components to your silver clay pieces. It gives you a stronger bond than if you used the normal Paste. It comes with a thinning liquid, to use if the paste dries up. Can also be used to draw relief designs on the clay. Don't use with Art Clay Gold. Comes in 10gm.

Art Clay Silver - Paper

The paper has a different consistency to the clays, it's dry, and feels a little like a rubbery piece of thick embossing foil. It is flexible and can be plaited, folded, punched, cut, or layered to create thicker sheets. Use a craft paper punch and cut out shapes to decorate your clay pieces. The paper on its own doesn't need to dry before firing; it can go straight in the kiln. Don't add any water to the paper. If you get any cracks, repair these after firing with the Oil Paste (adding water or normal paste will make the paper difficult to work with). To apply paper shapes to a base piece, apply a small amount of Art Clay Paste to the base piece and apply the shape. Small embellishments can be fired with a torch or on a gas top, but large pieces should be fired in a kiln. Shrinks about 9-10%. Comes in 10gm, 75x75mm.

Art Clay Gold 22 carat

This is the gold version of the clay, which can be worked just like the silver clay, giving you a pure 22 carat gold piece after firing. Fires for 1 hour at 990°C. Shrinks 15%. Comes in 5 or 10gm.

Accent Gold for Silver

This fantastic product is an economical and easy alternative to using the gold clay, and much easier than using gold foil and the traditional Keum-Boo technique. It is simply pure gold in a liquid form, which you paint onto your fired piece, let dry, fire again, and burnish - and you have 24 carat gold accents! Super easy, and beautiful! Comes in 1gm.