



## 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 - New Formula

This is a gorgeous creamy clay to work with. Aida has combined the best parts of their three most popular clays of the past to form what we think just might be the ideal clay! It's easy to mold, slow drying, and has a low firing temperature. Fire with a torch, kiln, or a gas stove. If using a kiln, the recommended firing times and temperatures are 30 minutes at 650°C on a continuum to only 5 minutes at 800°C. Use the higher temperature if the piece doesn't include sterling silver or glass. For extra strength you can fire your piece for longer. Shrinkage is 8-9%. Also comes in a Paste and Syringe. Comes in 10, 20 and 50gm.

### Art Clay Silver - Paste Type

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

### Art Clay Silver - Syringe

This softer version of the silver 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 - Overlay Paste

This is the silver 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 Copper

This is the newest addition to the Art Clay line of metal clay products. A gorgeous warm-coloured and strong clay, with an extremely simple firing schedule. Only requires a 30 minute kiln firing time and you don't need to use any activated carbon or firing pans - you can even fire it with



[www.metalclay.co.uk](http://www.metalclay.co.uk)

a torch! Make sure any tools you use are clean of silver clay as this would contaminate your copper.

#### **Art Clay Silver - Paper Type**

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.