



Bow Tie Pendant

A Must Keep

Product Review

Projects

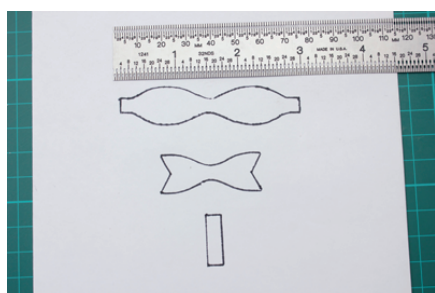
By MC Maker,
Nicola Beer x

Project Level: Intermediate

Materials:

- * Art Clay Paper Type
- * Art Clay Silver Clay 10g
- * Art Clay Silver Paste Type
- * Art Clay Silver Syringe
- * Art Clay Klum Boo Gold Foil
- * Swann Morton Scalpel Set
- * Badger Balm
- * Clear Acrylic Roller
- * Spacer set
- * Clay Shaper & Brush Combination Tool
- * 3M Polishing Papers
- * Spatula Tool
- * Drill Bit Set

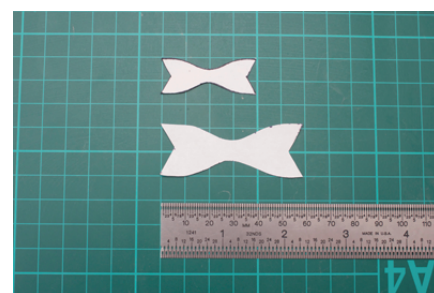
- * Swivel Pin Vice
- * Fibre Blanket
- * Cross- Action Tweezer
- * Brass Brush
- * Tissue Blade
- * Agate Burnisher
- * Liver of Sulphur
- * Baking Soda
- * Pro Polishing Pads
- * Needle Tool
- * Teflon sheets
- * Sanding pad
- * Micro Carving Tool
- * Tracing paper



Step 1: Sketch out a pattern for the bow plain paper or print a free template online. The loop section should be approximately 3" in length as shown.

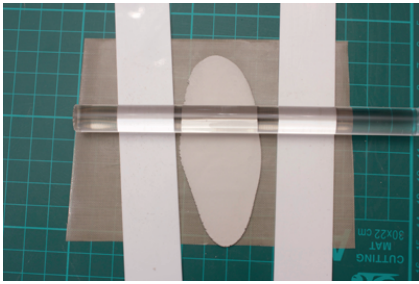


Step 2: Cut out the sections of the pattern and place them in an economical arrangement on a sheet of Art Clay Silver Paper Type. Use a needle tool to scribe around the templates, then cut out the shapes with a sharp scalpel or scissors.

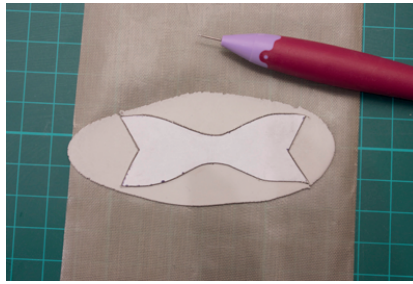


Step 3: Enlarge the tail section of the paper pattern by 25%, this larger tail template will be used to create a sturdy backplate for the paper clay bow to sit on.

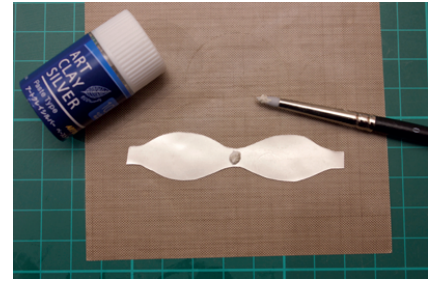
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Step 4: Lubricate a non stick work surface with badger balm or cool slip. Roll out a 10g lump of Art Clay Silver to 1mm, using spacers or 4 playing cards on both sides as a guide to ensure an even sheet of clay.



Step 5: Rub badger balm over the larger tail template and place onto rolled out clay. Cut around the template, and roll up excess clay for later use. Lift the paper template off the clay and dry in a dehydrator, hotplate, oven on low heat, or air dry for a few hours.



Step 6: Create the bow from the cut out sections of Art Clay Silver Paper. Add a small amount of Art Clay Silver paste to the centre of the loop section of the bow. *Do not add any water to the paper clay as it will dissolve*



Step 7: Curl both ends towards the centre and press the ends down with a clay shaper. The bow should be rounded and 3D. Hold ends in place for a couple of minutes until adhered, and leave to dry. *Do not dry the paper clay type with heat - it will flake or crack*



Step 8: Check that the backplate is plaster dry and refine it with sanding pads, 3M polishing papers or a baby wipe until you are satisfied that it is perfectly smooth and will fire to a good finish.



Step 9: Attach the paper clay tail to the backplate with paste or Art Clay Silver syringe clay. Apply a thin line of syringe clay along the centre of the pendant and attach one end of the small rectangular paper clay pieces to it. Press it in place with a clay shaper tool.



Step 10: Work quickly so the syringe clay does not dry out or dissolve the paper clay. Pick up the bow and place it centrally onto the backplate. Press down with a clay shaper in the centre to secure.



Step 11: Curl the rectangular section over the middle of the bow and use a spatula tool to tuck in the free end. Set the project to one side and allow it to fully dry.



Step 12: Once dry, use a carving tool to etch lines into the ends of the backplate of the design, mirroring the bow tail shape. Carve approx. 2mm from the edge to allow space for Keum Boo after firing.

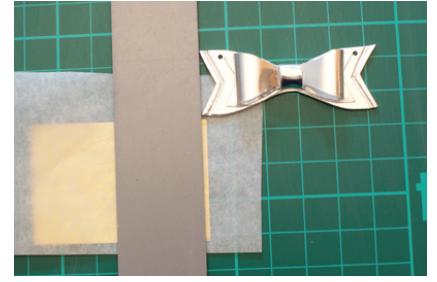
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Step 13: Place the pendant onto a cork mat and use a 1.5mm drill bit, in a pin vice, to drill a hole on each side for jump rings. Do not drill too close to the edge of the design as that could cause the pendant to crack.



Step 14: Before firing, pack the loops of the bow with small rolls of fibre blanket. This will support the clay during firing and prevent the loops of the bow from slumping. Fire the piece in a kiln at 800°C for 30 minutes. Remove from the kiln, quench, and brass brush the pendant in water.



Step 15: Place a sheet of Art Clay Keum Boo Gold Foil in-between tracing paper. Measure out some thin strips of foil that will fit perfectly into the edges created at the ends of each tail of the pendant.



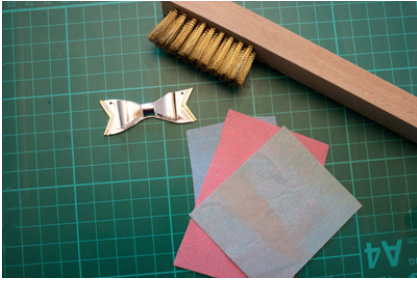
Step 16: Trim the gold foil with a very sharp tissue blade, cutting it through the tracing paper for greater control and to keep the foil free of finger grease.



Step 17: Place the thin strips of gold foil onto the pendant and place it into a kiln, preheated to 800 degrees c for 3 minutes.



Step 18: On a heat proof surface, tap the gold foil into place with an agate burnisher to tack it to the silver surface. Burnish the gold until it bonds with the silver. Leave to cool naturally and check the Keum boo is completely bonded without bubbled, thinned or missing areas. Pop any bubbles with a pin and smooth out the air. For thinned sections, add small pieces of foil and repeat the process to fill the gaps.



Step 19: Brass brush the entire pendant and polish it to a high shine with 3m polishing papers, working through the grits from blue to mint.



Step 20: Make up a solution of liver of sulphur and dip the bow until it turns black. Add the silver to a solution of bicarbonate of soda and water, and leave it for ten minutes to neutralise the oxidation. Remove from the bicarbonate of soda solution and polish with a pro polishing pad to remove the oxidation from the high points of the silver.



Step 21: Wash the pendant with soap and water and assess the patina. If necessary, perform a final polish with a clean pro polishing pad. Finish with a jump ring to either side and a suitable chain.



See more of Nicola Beer's work at www.facebook.com/RubycurlsJewelleryDesigns