



Copper Feather Pendant Project Tutorial

By Aida x

PROJECT LEVEL:
Beginner

TOP TIP:

If you're having trouble making the feather texture, use a scrap piece of polymer clay to practice on.

MATERIALS:

- Art Clay Copper
- Non-stick Work Surface
- Acrylic Roller
- Spacers - 1.5mm
- Non-stick Balm or Spray
- Firing Torch or Kiln
- Fibre Brick (if torch firing)
- Tweezers
- Toothpick
- Polishing method

Instructions:



STEP 1: Roll your clay out using your 1.5mm spacers. To get this thin oval shape, roll it into a rough sausage shape first.



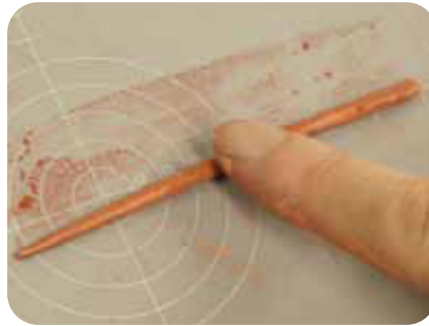
STEP 2: Apply a small amount of water to the surface of your clay with your fingertip. This will help to keep the clay moist while you're sculpting it.



STEP 3: Use a toothpick to mark a centre line down your clay.



STEP 4: Using a toothpick, make a feather texture on your clay. Once finished, leave to dry.



STEP 5: Roll a thin snake with some more clay. You want one end of the snake to be nice and tapered.



STEP 6: Apply a small amount of water to the centre line of your feather. Lay your snake on top and apply gentle pressure.



STEP 7: Apply a small amount of water to the back of your feather. Fold your snake over to the back and secure in place. This will create your bail to hang the pendant from.



STEP 8: Allow your piece to dry completely and then fire and finish.

To Torch Fire Art Clay Copper :

Place your piece on a firing brick and heat until it's burning cherry red for at least 5-7 minutes, depending on the size. * We don't recommend torch firing pieces larger than a 50p coin and/or weighing more than 35 grams. Copper needs to be quenched immediately after moving the flame away. Keep a bowl of water close to your firing brick and have long tweezers ready, so you can pick up the piece, pretty much literally as you lift the flame off, and then drop straight into water.

To Kiln Fire Art Clay Copper :

Put the dried clay on shelf paper on a kiln shelf, as the copper can stick to the shelf slightly. Place in a hot kiln and fire at 970°C for 30min. As soon as the firing is finished, take the piece out with tweezers or tongs and quench immediately with water. This will allow most of the oxidised layer which occurs during firing to peel off. Alternatively, cover your piece with carbon during firing and allow it to cool in the kiln to avoid firescale.