

* Activated coconut carbon

* Radial brushes or polishing papers

* Flat nose pliers

* Pro-polishing pads

A Must Keep

Product Review

Projects

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Project Level: Intermediate

Materials:

- * Aussie Gold Bronze Clay Standard Mid Fire
- * Cool Slip anti-stick spray or olive oil
- * Jump rings
- * Freshwater pearls or beads of choice
- * Fine wire for making wrapped loops
- * Acrylic roller
- * Small rubber block
- * Spacer set or playing cards
- * Drill bit 1mm
- * Texture plate (I used 'Seaweed Symphony')
- * Jewellery shape template 'Fancy Bails'



Step 1: Begin by mixing up around 10g of Aussie Gold Bronze (standard) powder and roll using spacers or playing cards to 5 cards thick.

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Step 2: Decide textures for the front and back of your piece and rolle to 4 cards thick. I used the 'Seaweed Symphony' texture tile for the front and a wallpaper texture for the back. Lubricate your textures with olive oil or cool slip to avoid sticking.



Step 3: Cut a trapezium shape measuring 3cm at the top and 4cm at the bottom. The height should be 1.5cm. Set aside to dry.

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Step 4: When your piece is completely dry, mark three evenly spaced dots with a pencil across the bottom.



Step 5: Place your dried piece on a rubber block and drill through your pencil marks with a 1mm drill bit.



Step 7: Dry your bail over a spcer - it is helpful to use something about the same thickness as your pendant as it will dry with just the right tension for fitting. Decorate as you wish.



Step 8: Apply the dried bail to the pendant with some mixed up paste. The bail should hold well as it has dried over a shape of similar size. The paste should be of a creamy consistency.



Step 10: Place your pendant and leaves (also drilled with a hole) onto coconut carbon and follow firing instructions for phase 1: in this case ramp at 700°C to 500°C for 30-45 min. For stage 2: cover with additional coconut carbon and ramp at 815°C to 775°C for 2 1/2 hours. Cool, brush, & polish after firing.



Step 11: Now begin to assemble your pendant - I used flat nosed pliers to add 4x jump rings to the outer to holes and 6x jump rings to the centre. Add leaves to the jump rings to create a falling leaves effect.



Step 6: Using a bail template or a handmade stencil, cut out a wrap over bail for your shape. I cut my bail to 3 cards thick.



Step 9: Make a series of small leaves around 1cm in height, texture as you wish, and leave to dry. Here you can see bronze and copper leaf shapes drying on my cup warmer.



Step 12: Create a number of wrapped loops by wrapping fine wire around your chosen beads. Add these to the jump rings in a variety of positions. I chose to place my pearls just underneath my bronze leaves for a more natural look.