



Indian Summer Pendant Project Tutorial

By MC Maker, Fiona Ingram x

PROJECT LEVEL:

Intermediate

TOP TIP:

Remember to always clean your tools well between using different types of metal clay to avoid cross contamination.

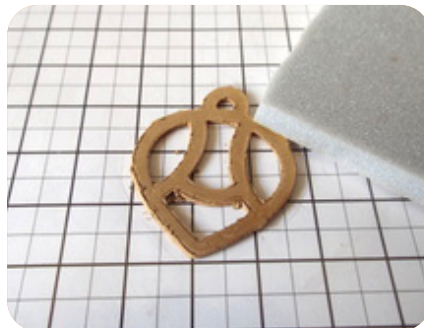
MATERIALS:

- Goldie Mid Bronze Clay 50g
- Baroque Art Gilders Paste
- Activated Coconut Carbon
- QuikArt Stylus Needle Tool
- QuikArt Clay Saving Template #55160
- QuikArt Bold Texture Mat 5
- 3M Polishing Papers
- Plastic Sanding Needles
- Firing Tin
- Spacer Set or Playing Cards
- Drinking Straws

Instructions:



STEP 1: Begin by rolling out your mixed bronze clay to 1mm thick and place your template over the area to be cut out. Use a needle tool to cut out the clay. Try to keep your needle as straight as possible.



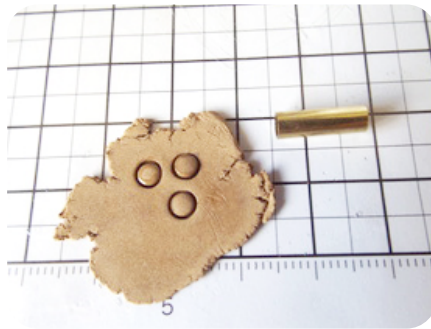
STEP 2: Leave your cut out clay to dry naturally or use a cup warmer or dehydrator to speed up the process. Once your clay is dry, use a sanding sponge to refine the edges. It may also be useful to use plastic sanding needles or folded sandpaper to get into the inner, smaller areas.



STEP 3: Spread a small amount of olive oil or other release agent onto the QuikArt texture mat. Decide which elements you wish to add to your pendant. Roll your texture mat over the clay and cut out. Set the elements aside to dry and then refine.



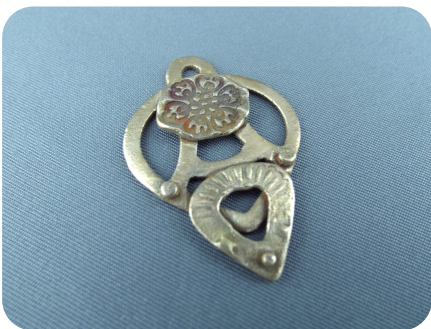
STEP 4: Mix up some bronze clay paste by adding a few drops of water to some powder. I prefer to mix up just enough for the project I'm working on. I decided to use the flower at the top of my pendant and a triangular piece with the center cut out at the bottom, as I like the negative space it leaves.



STEP 5: Add some extra embellishments by cutting out a few dots with straws or metal tubing. Use olive oil to lubricate your tools if necessary but the Goldie Clay doesn't seem to stick too much. When these are pasted on, set your piece aside to dry.



STEP 6: Place your completed pendant in a steel container on top of some coconut carbon (at least 1cm deep.) Fire in a kiln at 350°C for 30 minutes and then 820°C for 40 minutes, covered in more carbon. Add the lid to your firing vessel at stage two.



STEP 7: When your piece has cooled, remove and finish. I use the 3M polishing radial wheels to start with followed by 3M polishing papers until you have the finish you want. This pendant will have an aged look so the finish shouldn't be too perfect. You could also use a JoolTool or another sanding and polishing system.



STEP 8: When you're happy with the finish, apply Gilders Wax to your piece with a soft cloth. The Damson colour I used gives the bronze a lovely, warm, reddish glow. Gilders is best applied to a surface that is not completely smooth. The wax is dry to the touch in 10-15 minutes.



STEP 9: Buff your piece with a polishing cloth and add a cord or chain to finish off the look. It would be easy to make a matching pair of earrings too! Just use the smaller design on the QuikArt Clay Saving Template.