



Starry Night Pendant

A Must Keep

Product Review

Projects

By MC Maker,
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Project Level: Intermediate

Materials:

- * Art Clay Silver 7g (or 950 Sterling if preferred)
- * Onyx Vintaj patina for metal
- * Sheet of scratch foam
- * Economy Acrylic Roller or similar
- * Needle tool
- * Spacers/playing cards
- * QuikArt Star template/template of your choice
- * Small ball burnisher
- * Sanding Pads
- * Tissue blade/cutting blade
- * Heat gun/hair dryer
- * Pencil



Step 1: Use a sharp pencil and template with different sized shapes such as Quikart's star template. Draw three concentric stars on a piece of scratch foam.



Step 2: Use a small ball burnisher to trace over the pencil line and deepen the texture on the scratch foam. You may need to do this a few times to get the depth required.



Step 3: Add dots or any embellishments you like, bearing in mind that your clay design will show the reverse image. Recesses in the scratch foam will be raised in the clay.

Projects



Step 4: Oil scratch foam and firmly roll clay 4 cards thick onto the design. Cut excess wet clay with a needle tool. Set aside to dry.



Step 5: Once dry, refine with sanding sponges. Then apply some decoration to the reverse of your piece.



Step 6: Roll a thin snake of clay, loop round, and cut in half to provide a semi-circular bail for the back of your star. Set aside to dry.



Step 7: Moisten the ends of your semicircle bail and secure in place. Moving it gently will allow you to feel when it has 'stuck'. Place the bail in the top third of your piece to ensure it hangs well. Fire at 800°C for 30 minutes or up to 2 hours for additional strength.



Step 8: Remove your star from the kiln, quench and brush. Shake your Vintaj patina very well, and squeeze a small amount onto a plastic sheet. *You may wish to wear gloves at this stage as Vintaj can irritate skin.



Step 9: Apply the Vintaj onyx with a small paintbrush a little at a time. Take care when placing the patina, but don't worry too much if your paint goes into any areas it shouldn't, as you can clean up by sanding afterwards.



Step 10: Sand away any areas that have been accidentally covered to reveal the silver. Then apply a heat gun or hairdryer to the Vintaj patina to set it.



Making these with base metals would make great Christmas decorations too!