

Project of the Week: Circle Swirl Drop Earrings

1st December 2011

What you need:

Brass brush
Creative Copper Clay 20g
Cutters- Circle set of 6
Fish hook ear wires and jump rings
Hand drill
Headpins and glass beads
Olive oil dispenser and olive oil
Paintbrush and cup of water
Picklean granules
Roller and spacers
Rubber block
Safety Cutter
Sandpaper
Texture mat- Swirly Q
Torch & block or Kiln
Tumbler polisher

All items are available from The PMC Studio, www.thepmcstudio.com, tel. 01494 774428



Step 1

Rub some olive oil on your hands and texture mat. Remove the Copper clay from the pack and place it on the rubber mat. Place the spacers either side of the clay and roll the clay flat. Remove the clay from the texture mat and place on the Teflon. Cut out four large circles using the largest circle cutter. Use a smaller circle cutter to cut out the centre pieces of the circles and remove that part.

Step 2

Drill two holes in each of the circles opposite each other (as shown in the picture above). Leave your pieces for at least 24hours to dry.

Step 3

Refine your pieces using the sandpaper and a paintbrush where necessary. Complete all the finishing touches at this stage. Your piece is now ready for firing.

Step 4

Heat the copper clay using the butane gas torch, again wait for the binder to burn off and time for a minimum of 5 minutes. Evenheat Set-Pro Kiln- Creative Copper firing: Fire at a temperature of 920C for 30 minutes. Creative metal clay kiln- setting 1.

Step 5

Quench the Fired Copper in mixed Picklean solution. Picklean solution is created by mixing 2 tablespoons of Picklean granules with 200ml of hot/warm water. Leave the copper pieces in the solution for 10 minutes immediately after firing. After 10 minutes remove the pieces from the solution and brush them with a brass brush to remove the fire-scale. To achieve a high shine finish and remove further fire-scale place your pieces in a tumbler barrel with half a tablespoon of Picklean granules and 100ml of water. (DO NOT USE THIS SHOT AND BARRELL WITH SILVER CLAY).

Step 6

Use jump rings to join the circles together and to attach the copper pieces to the ear wires.

Step 7

Use headpins to hold the beads in place and fix to the bottom of each earring with a twist of your headpins.