

SIMPLE SCRAFFITO ENAMEL PENDANT PROJECT



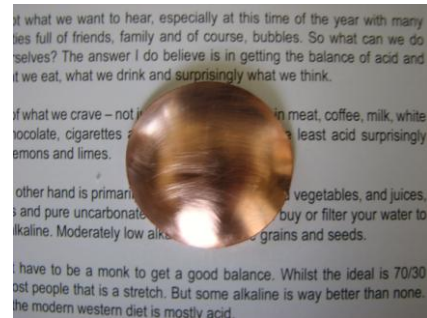
What you will need -

- 1 x 30mm sterling silver round bezel cup with bail
- 1 copper disc to fit bezel cup (we used .9 mm copper sheet)
- Counter enamel
- Enamel colours of your choice
- Enamel sifter
- Enamel adhesive
- Dust mask
- Trivet
- Baking soda
- Pickle
- Rubber pick or tooth pick to make your design
- Rubber cord and bayonet clasp for finishing
- Epoxy glue
- Bezel pusher or toothbrush

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU READ ALL THE INSTRUCTIONS, INCLUDING THE NOTES, PRIOR TO STARTING THIS PROJECT AND THAT YOU HAVE ALL YOUR TOOLS AND MATERIALS HANDY, READY TO USE.

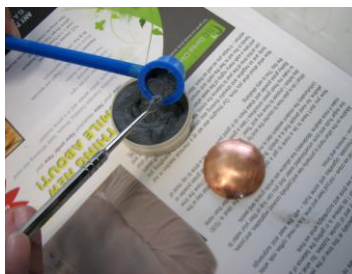
METHOD

1. Wash copper disc in baking soda and water to ensure all finger crease and any other oils are removed. To check that it is completely clean rinse under running water and look for the water streaming without beading over the copper disc.



2. Carry your dried disc, carefully holding by the edges (so as not to add any further oil or crease) to your prepared work area.

Counter enamel your disc - Spray or paint enamel adhesive to underside of your copper disc and sift your counter enamel evenly coating from outside edge to inside.



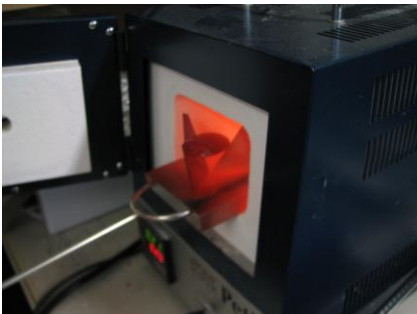
Allow the adhesive to dry.



- Carefully pick up the disc and place in the trivet.



- Place the trivet in the kiln at 815oC (this temperature can vary between kilns - please do a test piece first) for approximately two to three minutes until your piece looks glossy. (Your piece will go through three stages - sugary, orange peel and then glossy).
- Take the trivet with the disc out of the kiln and place on a heat free surface. Allow the disc to cool.



- Use a clean piece of sandpaper to clean off the fire scale on the sides and top of the disc.



If there is any fire scale left on the piece, you can, in theory, enamel over the top of this however if you were using transparent enamels it would show through. So it is best to clean it all off.

7. Repeat this process, from Steps 1 to 6 for the top side of your disc. Choose the colour that you want your design to show through ie your base colour. We have chosen black for this project.

Remember to sand off any fire scale from the sides of the disc. You will need to do this after each layer of enamel. The reason for sanding off the fire scale is to prevent the fire scale 'jumping' off during the enamel firing and marking the piece.

8. Sift a further layer of your base coat on to the top of the disc. This ensures an even coating. Place in kiln and fire once more. Sand the sides.
9. Sift your top colour on to the disc.



10. Create your pattern using either a toothpick or a rubber pick.



11. Carefully lift the disc on to the trivet and place in to the kiln. Fire.
12. When your piece is cool enough, sand the sides once again.
13. Place the disc in to the sterling silver bezel.
14. Using your bezel pusher or the end of a toothbrush, gently push the bezel edges over using a 6,12,9,3 pattern and then working your way around the bezel to complete.



15. Attach the rubber cord and glue the ends in to your bayonet clasps using a two part epoxy glue.

NOTES

For a good work surface take 5-10 pages from a glossy magazine. This is excellent for recovering spilt enamel which can be returned to your pot easily by making a crease in the page. Before starting with another colour carefully fold up the sides of the magazine page and discard.

If you wish to dome your copper disc make sure the diameter of the disc is larger than the inside measurement of the bezel cup to allow for the doming.

It is possible to enamel directly into the sterling silver bezel cup, however, if you make a mistake, it is far cheaper to start again on another copper disc than to discard your sterling silver bezel cup. Once you have completed your enamelling, you can pickle your piece to remove fire scale.

What is Counter Enamelling?

Coating both sides of the metal with enamel evenly distributes the stress of expansion and contraction, can prevent cracking, and can lessen warping. The coat on the front of the piece is called the base coat and the coat on the back is the counter enamel.

Metal which has been shaped, ie domed, or is sufficiently thick for your chosen design, may not need counter enamelling. If you are unsure it is safer to counter enamel your piece.