

Silver Ring with Copper Inlay



Please note: Pictures taken making this project sheet are of the rolled rope ring and the flat band ring.

Step One: Make your Art Clay Silver ring to the stage where it is finished 'greenware'. It is dried and sanded. This ring can be either a rolled rope design or a flat band but must have a minimum depth of 2-3mm.



Step Two: Make a pencil line around the ring, where you want the inlay to be. Using a square edged file, slowly work your way around the pencil line to make the inlay. The filed line can be made with a standard file and then carved out with a craft knife but you must end up with a carved out square shape with no rounding at the bottom.



Step Three: Make up some copper clay paste, using a pea sized amount of copper clay and water. Make sure the consistency is nice and smooth, similar to the consistency of toothpaste.



Step Four: Once you have finished carving out, wet the carved area with some water and a paint brush. This will help the copper clay paste adhere.



Step Five: Using the spatula, apply the paste in to the wet, carved out area. Dont worry about going over the edge, this will all be sanded back later. Your aim is to pack the area as much as possible, leaving no holes or areas unfilled.



Step Six: Carry on round the whole ring – I found using a slightly wet finger was also good to help push in the wet clay. Dry.



Step Seven: Sand evenly using the red coloured sponge sandpaper. Keep going until you reach the silver and your copper pattern comes through. Check for areas where there is no copper. Even little pin sized holes need to be filled, dried and resanded.



Step Eight: Check again for holes and then lightly finish with the blue and green sandpaper.

Step Nine: To fire, place your ring on a fibre board in a cold kiln and ramp up to 450oC. As soon as the kiln reaches 450oC, take the fibre board and piece out of the kiln. Let your piece and the kiln cool back down to room temperature. Next, carefully embed and cover your ring in a stainless steel pan with activated coal based carbon. Place back in the kiln and set the temperature to 750oC. When the kiln reaches temperature, fire for 4 hours. Then, take it out of the kiln and allow to cool to room temperature while still in the carbon. Once cool, your ring should be able to be polished as usual and will not have any fire scale on it.