



Keum Boo Techniques: Add Gold Foil to Silver Jewelry *with Joe Korth*

JOE'S TOP 5 TIPS

1 Seek inspiration

Keep your eyes open for pleasing patterns and uses of positive and negative space. Peruse books, observe nature, and snap photos of inspiring designs you see.



2 Make a prototype

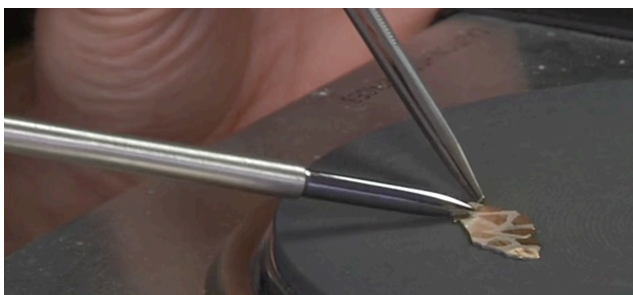
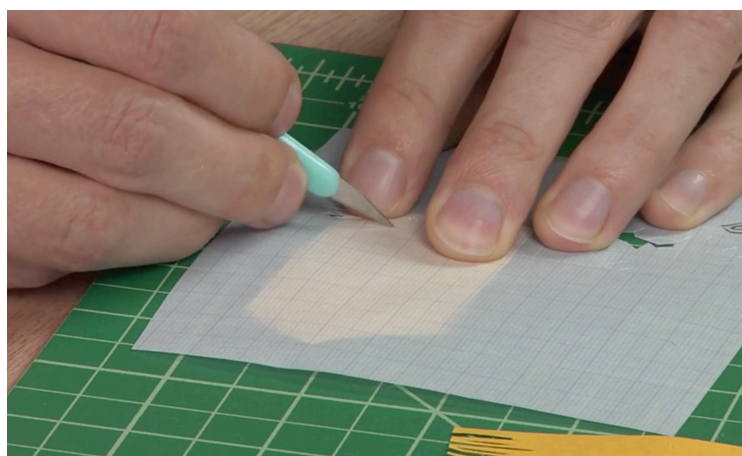
Since gold is expensive, it's a good idea to first make a prototype of your design with gold-colored paper and black card stock. Not only will you be able to judge the look, but you'll also get an idea of how difficult your design is to cut out.

3 Cut with precision

For best results, place a sheet of tracing paper over your gold foil before cutting it with an X-ACTO knife or another sharp tool.

4 Prepare your metal

Fine silver is ready to accept gold foil as-is. For sterling silver, you'll need to complete one extra step called depletion gilding. By heating and pickling the sterling about six times, you will successfully remove the copper from the surface of your metal. It will then be ready for the keum boo.



5 Equip yourself for success

When working on the hot plate, you'll want a pair of long tweezers and a burnisher. Hold your piece in place with long tweezers while you use a burnisher in the other hand to adhere the gold foil.