



Advanced Metal Clay Series: Faux Cloisonné Enameled Jewelry Using Art Clay with Jackie Truty

FIRING SCHEDULE

Kiln Guide for Enamels on Silver (see reverse for Torch Guide)

*You've given your all to make your design.
Now you want to make sure it turns out perfectly in the kiln.
Refer to these reminders as you fire your
Art Clay Silver enameled jewelry.*



First Kiln Firing: *Your metal clay base design (without enamels)*

- PLACE your piece on the compressed fiber board.
- INSERT the board into the kiln, placing it on the kiln feet. Close the door.
- RAMP the kiln at full speed to 1600 degrees F.
- HOLD the kiln at 1600 for 10 minutes.
- REMOVE your piece using oven gloves and tongs.

Second Kiln Firing: *Your piece with enamels applied*

- PRE-RAMP your kiln to 1450 degrees F to fire cool color enamels (blues, greens, purples).*
- INSERT the heavy gauge mesh with your piece on it into the kiln.**
- WAIT for the kiln to return to 1450 degrees F.
- FIRE the piece for 2 minutes.***



Enamel Essentials:

* **Warm color enamels** should be applied and fired **AFTER** the cool colors. If you use warm colors (reds, oranges, yellows), apply a layer of clear enamel first on the entire piece. It won't affect the cool colors and it will help protect the warm colors from reacting with the silver. Fire warm color enamels at 1300 degrees F after all cool colors are fired.

** **If you counter-enamel** (that is, use enamel on both sides of your piece), you will not be able to use the mesh. You will need a trivet.

*** **The three visual stages** of firing enamels are: 1. Granulation, which looks like melted sugar. 2. Orange peel, which looks bumpy like an orange rind. 3. Glossy, which is the shiny look you want.



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Torch Guide

for

Enamels on Silver

(see reverse for Kiln Guide)

*You've given your all to make your design.
 Now you want to make sure you fire it to perfection
 with your butane torch. Refer to these reminders as you fire
 your faux cloisonné enameled jewelry.*



First Torch Firing: *Your metal clay base design (without enamels)*

- **BE SAFE:** Take safety precautions, including having appropriate eyewear and proper ventilation.
- **PLACE** your dry clay base on the compressed refractory ceramic fiber board.
- **TORCH FIRE** for about 3 minutes, timing from the moment the entire piece reaches a salmon/peachy glow. (Every 10 grams of silver needs to be fired for 3 minutes.)

Second Torch Firing: *Your piece with enamels applied*

- **BE SAFE:** Make sure to have protective eyewear and proper ventilation.
- **COOL COLOR** enamels will be fired first.*
- **PLACE** your enameled piece on the mesh screen of the 9" tripod.**
- **TORCH FIRE** from beneath the mesh, watching for a red glow to appear around the piece. Continue firing until the enamels pass through the three stages and reach the glossy stage.***
- **TURN OFF** the torch immediately, and after a few seconds, use tweezers to move the piece to a cool surface away from the tripod.

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