



ART CLAY COPPER

No. 090-300

Drying Your Piece

ALLOW YOUR PIECE TO DRY COMPLETELY BEFORE FIRING. Most pieces will dry within 24 hours in open air. To hasten drying, apply heat from a hair dryer for at least 20 minutes or dry in a kiln, toaster oven, or hot plate at 300°F for at least 10 minutes. The dried clay will become hard like plaster, and can be drilled, filed and sanded.

TO TEST FOR DRYNESS, place the piece on a stainless steel or glass plate for 10 seconds while still warm. If no condensation forms on the plate, drying is complete. If condensation is present, continue the drying process in 10-minute increments until the piece is bone dry.

DO NOT DRY THE PIECE OVER 480°F. High temperatures will destroy the binder and deform the piece.

Kiln Firing

1. Pre-heat your kiln to 1778°F and fire your dried Art Clay Copper piece for 30 minutes.
2. Remove piece from the kiln immediately after firing and quench in cool water, removing most oxidation.

Speedfire Cone Firing

1. Place on Speedfire Cone System grate and fire at 1400°F for at least 20 minutes.
2. Remove piece from immediately after firing and quench in cool water, removing most oxidation.

Butane Torch Firing

1. Place your dried piece (no larger than a US Silver Dollar and weighing no more than 25g) on a firing brick and heat with your torch until cherry red, holding for 7-10 minutes (larger pieces require longer firing times).
2. Immediately after firing is complete, quench in cool water, removing most oxidation.

Preventing Oxidation

If a fired piece is left to cool without quenching, the oxidized layer will be thick. To lessen oxidation without quenching, cover the piece with a fiber blanket after removing from oven and let cool. You can also bury your piece in activated carbon, in a stainless steel firing pan, and fire for 3.5 hours at 1778°F, allowing it to cool in the kiln (not recommended for small kilns).

Pickling

Immersion in a warm pickle solution for 15 minutes should remove all firescale from your fired piece.

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