

## Art Clay Silver 950 Basic instructions & FAQ

### New product Art Clay Silver 950 is now available!

The new choice for Professional! High strength, high hardness silver alloy metal clay is here!

Art Clay Silver 950 comes in a pre-mixed clay form enclosed in a jet-black package. This is a newly designed clay that combines hardness with strength.

#### More Strength:

Surface hardness, and bending strength of Art Clay Silver 950 is approx. 60% stronger than regular Art Clay Silver. \*Results may vary depending on firing and measuring conditions.

Because of its high strength, it allows for more design options and durability especially for works that are thinner, narrower, open ended (ring and cuff) and delicate, etc. The finished silver surface is more resistant to scratches. This makes it a more suitable product for professional artists who gift or sell their works. It also has a unique silver color.



#### Pre-mixed Clay form:

Molding and drying process is exactly the same as with the current Art Clay Silver Clay Type. The clay comes in AIDA's high quality, ready to use pre-mixed clay form, so you can start working right after unsealing the package!

#### Clay components ratio, Shrinkage and Purity after firing:

90% of the clay is Silver and copper alloy powder, and 10% is binder and water.

It shrinks a little more than regular Art Clay Silver series. For ring making, please check the shrinkage guide below. Purity after firing is Silver 950. Shrinkage after firing: Approx. 11-13%

Ring size shrinkage		
When the band is 3mm in thickness, make the ring 3 to 4 sizes larger than desired.	When the band is flat (1.5mm in thickness and 10mm wide), make the ring 4 to 5 sizes larger than desired.	When the band is greater in thickness and width than the rings mentioned at left, make the ring 5 to 6 sizes larger than desired.

### **Firing condition --Open Shelf Firing-- :**

Another great feature is that you DO NOT need carbon to fire. No extra preparation for firing is needed and you make no extra mess! \* Always fire in an electric kiln with temperature control. Not suitable for gas stove or torch firing. Please make sure to read firing instructions as conditions are different from the regular Art Clay Silver series.

### **[ Following is firing steps after molding and drying]**

1. Put your piece in a room temperature kiln, and set the kiln temperature at 500 Deg.C (932F)
2. Ramp up until 500 Deg. C (932F) and hold for 30 mins.
3. Set the kiln temp at 870 Deg. C (1598F), and hold it at 870 Deg.C for 60 mins.
4. Turn off the kiln and wait until the kiln temperature drops to 200 Deg.C (392F)
5. Take the piece out and wait until the piece cools down completely or leave it until the kiln temperature drops to room temperature.

### **Storage:**

Since Art Clay Silver will dry out naturally during usage, take out only the required working amount, and wrap the remainder tightly in cling film securely so as not to be exposed to air, and store in a sealed container.

If you wish to store for a long time, seal the remainder tightly in plastic wrap and store in a refrigerator. Compared to when stored at room temperature, this will reduce oxidation. When storing, please ensure they are no gaps between the clay and the plastic wrap. **\*Please don't store in the freezer.**

## **FAQ for Art Clay Silver 950**

Ver.1.0 –Aug.8<sup>th</sup>, 2016-

**\*From here, ACS stands for Art Clay Silver.**

### **Q.) Does it feel different to work with compared to regular ACS?**

A.) Working with ACS 950 is not significantly different from working with regular ACS. If the clay feels a little stiff when first taking out of the package, knead well before use.

### **Q. Compared with the regular ACS, Is there a difference in drying time? Also do you have the strength and flexibility difference after drying?**

A.) There is no difference in drying time. The strength and flexibility after drying are also almost the same as with regular ACS.

### **Q.) For those with metal allergies, is there any problem with wearing and/or working with the clay?**

A.) In some rare cases, there may be a possibility of reaction due to the metal. In general, because of the high purity of the clay and when compared to SV925, which is generally used in jewelry, if there is no problem with regularly worn silver accessories, the possibility of reaction is low.

### **Q.) Can I make Paste from ACS 950 for fixing and joining dried pieces of ACS 950? Also, can I use my own paste of ACS 950 for fixing or joining fired ACS 950 pieces?**

A.) You can make Paste of ACS 950 by mixing with water, and you can use it for fixing and joining dried ACS 950 pieces. For fixing and joining fired ACS 950 pieces, please use regular ACS Paste Type to re-fire it at 800 Deg.C (1472F).

**Q.) Can I use regular ACS Paste type with ACS 950 works?**

A.) Yes, you can use regular ACS paste type for dried pieces, and fired pieces of ACS 950.

**Q.) Is it possible to mix ACS 950 with other ACS series? (Regular Art Clay Silver, Slow Tarnish)**

A.) When combined with other ACS series products, the clay characteristics will change. Drying conditions and firing conditions will also vary, Therefore it is not recommended to mix clay types as there is possibility of damage during firing.

**Q.) What is the shrinkage after firing ACS 950?**

A.) Shrinkage is approx. 10 to 13% in length.

\* Shrinkage of regular Art Clay Silver is about 8 to 9% in length.

\* For making ring, allow extra shrinkage 1 size more than the one was made with regular ACS.

**Q.) What is the purity after firing? Also, can the piece be hallmarked?**

A.) Silver purity will be 95% after firing. You can hallmark your pieces [Sterling] [SILVER] [SV950] [SILVER950] . According to the definition of assay office in UK, silver purity of 92.5% over and less than 95.8% can be hallmarked as [Sterling].

**Q.) Is it possible to fire ACS 950 with synthetic stones?**

A.) Yes, the same stone specifications apply as with regular Art Clay Silver products.

**Q.) Is it possible to solder ACS 950 work?**

A.) Soldering is possible but care needs to be shown with soldering absorbed in metal due to porousness of the fired ACS 950.

**Q. Is it possible to attach Gold foil on fired ACS950?**

A.) Yes, and it is the same process as with regular Art Clay series products.

**Q.) Can I store remainder of ACS950 in a moisturizing case?**

A.) If ACS950 contacts in higher humidity in a moisturizing case, oxidation will proceed. It is recommended that you keep it tightly with plastic wrap in the moisturizing case.

**Q.) Do I need to use acid to remove any oxidation?**

A.) You can use acid on your choice, but it is not necessary. It turns grayish color right after firing as it has very small amount of copper in ACS 950, but it turns silver shine by polishing.

**Q.) Can I put ACS 950 in a syringe to use?**

A.) Yes, you can use it as you use with regular ACS. In that case, please use AIDA's recommended empty syringe (Original item # : A-0031).