

## Wood Clay

Our Mokunensan wood clay is imported from Japan, and is distributed by Art Clay World, USA, certified instructors, and dealers. It is easily molded into any shape and makes an excellent internal structure for Art Clay Silver, Art Clay Copper, and any other open-shelf-fireable metal clay. The idea is that the wood clay forms an armature for the metal clay, allowing for an open or hollow form. This saves material and weight, and exponentially opens design opportunities.

### Shape and Dry

1. Take out the necessary amount of Mokunensan wood clay and roll in your hands to compress.
2. Form the desired shape for your piece.
3. Dry completely. Either let sit in open air for 24 hours, or use a dehydrator or toaster oven no warmer than 200°F.  
**The wood clay must be bone dry before firing to avoid steam expansion!**
4. After the wood clay is completely dry, it can be sanded, filed, engraved, etc., to achieve any desired surface. The wood particulate is small and allows for easy and detailed working.

### Firing

Pieces made incorporating wood clay must be fired in a kiln, and it is highly recommended that the kiln ramp is slowed to allow slow smoldering out of the wood clay. A fast ramp speed might cause a quick burning when the wood clay reaches its flash point, which can in turn superheat the metal clay and cause distortion or melting. Simply set the kiln to the typical firing schedule for the metal clay, slowing the ramp to 1000°F/hour to accommodate the wood clay.

### Tips:

Keep all unused portions of Mokunensan wood clay tightly wrapped, and kept in an air-tight container. If the wood dries out, it cannot be reconditioned.

Store the wood clay at room temperature. If you see dark spots develop (mildew), this will not affect the use of the clay, because the spots will burn off during firing.

Wood clay pieces can be joined by moistening the area for attachment. No paste/slip needs to be made.

Wood clay will create a small amount of smoke (non-toxic) as it smolders. Please fire in a well-ventilated area. Some of the smoke will escape from the kiln, either through the vent or possibly around the door. **Do NOT open the kiln door** while firing wood clay! This added rush of oxygen can cause a flash of flame, increasing the temperature and causing a possibly dangerous rush of heat to anyone standing in front of the kiln door.

There may be a small amount of ash inside the fired pieces, which can be removed with running water.

HAVE FUN!!! As an internal sculptural structure, this medium saves hours of time creating hollow forms. Enjoy playing with designs for beads, various domed forms, negative space items, and so much more!

### [ART CLAY WORLD USA](http://www.artclayworld.com)

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