

# Art Clay™ Copper Instructions

## [Features]

- Art Clay™ Copper is a clay material that you can use to make a wide range of pieces such as jewelry, craft designs, and objects like sculptures and models. Art Clay™ Copper can be fired in an electric kiln without using carbon, with the resulting fired piece being 100% pure copper. The percentage of copper in the Art Clay™ Copper in clay state is 90%.

## [Safety Instructions]

- Do not place a just-fired piece on any flammable and/or combustible materials as it will be extremely hot and may cause a fire.
- Keep out of the reach of children.
- If the product contacts eyes or mouth, please rinse with running water, and if problems persist, see a doctor.
- Wash your hands well after using the product.
- Be aware that some people are allergic to Copper. The level of reaction is different according to the individual, from light to severe. If you do have an allergy against copper and work with and wear copper accessories made from the product directly on the body, some kind of allergy reaction may occur. If in doubt, please seek medical advice from a qualified medical practitioner.
- Follow the written instructions carefully, and do not use this product for any other purpose other than the stated purposes above.

## [Instructions for use]

- Due to the differences between Copper clay and Silver clay, the clays may contaminate each other if mixed accidentally during preparation. This can occur by using shared tools. It is recommended to use separate tools for each type of clay. If this is not possible, please clean the tools carefully after each use to limit the chance of contamination.
- After firing in the kiln, the surface layer of the piece will oxidize similar to soldered sterling silver. You will need to take away the oxidized surface with pickling solution such as powder-form pickling compound to obtain a pure copper color.

## [Storage]

- Please use the product as soon as possible after opening the original product package.
- After opening your package of clay, the surface of Art Clay™ Copper will naturally start oxidizing and the color will darken if left in the air. If you see a darkened surface, please scrape off the darkened layer and use the internal clay to make your piece. (I hope that we are sure the clay wont darken naturally in the package)
- To avoid oxidation of unused clay after unsealing the original product package, please wrap it in layers of plastic wrap tightly, then place in a zip up type plastic bag, or an air tight container.
- Try to estimate accurately how much clay you will need for your project before opening packages unnecessarily.
- Keep the clay indoors at a moderate room temperature and out of direct sunlight.

## [Instructions]

### **MOLDING**

Art Clay™ Copper is a water-based clay, and dries naturally in the air. To avoid drying, when starting your piece, only take out the needed amount to make your desired piece, and store well the rest of the clay using the instructions explained above.

The shrinkage of Art Clay™ Copper during firing is under 10% in length, so please consider this when making your piece.

### \*How to make paste

Apply a small amount of water to some soft clay or ground powder of dry clay, and blend well while crushing and blending in any hard pieces. Use this paste for filling up any cracks in the dried clay of your

piece, and for joining clay parts.

## **DRYING**

Dry completely after molding. The dried clay will become hard like plaster, and you can easily enjoy the process of drilling, filing and sanding with hand tools and equipment. Follow the drying instructions and drying check method below.

Place the dried piece on a stainless or glass plate while still warm. Leave for a couple of seconds, then remove your piece from the plate. If you do not see any cloud on the plate where the piece was, drying is completed.

Drying guideline for drying a piece up to 1mm thick, 5g:

\*If the piece is larger than this size, drying will need more time.

hot air dryer	Electric Hot Plate	Electric Kiln	Natural air drying method
More than 10 mins. *1	More than 10 mins at 150°C/ 302°F	More than 10 mins at 150°C/ 302°F	More than 24 hrs

\*1 : Place the piece as close as safely possible to the hot air while taking care not to drop the piece.

\*\*\*DO NOT dry the piece over 250°C/482°F, or the binder will be destroyed during drying and deform the shape in the firing process.\*\*\*

## **FIRING instructions :**

**Place the piece into a kiln at 970°C / 1778°F, and hold at this temperature for 30 minutes to fire.**

\*\*\*Please wear safety glasses when firing and always use the proper equipment and safety precautions\*\*\*

After firing, take out the fired piece with tweezers or tongs from the kiln, and quench immediately with water, so that most of the oxidized layer which occurs during firing will peel off.

\*Work in a well ventilated area when firing the piece.

\*The fired piece is extremely hot when taken out from the kiln. Please pay extra attention to people and your surroundings while handling.

\* **CAUTION!!** If a hot fired piece is left in the air right after firing, the oxidized layer on the surface will fracture and at times small pieces can fly into the air. ( I cant think of a better way to explain!).. For your safety in such cases, immediately place a fiber cloth over the piece

\*You can also leave the fired piece in the kiln to cool, however clean up the oxidized layer outside your kiln

## **PICKLING**

Place the fired piece into a solution made with pickling solution to take away any oxidized layers on the surface. For any oxidized layers around detailed design areas, please use a polishing point with an electric rotary tool.

\*For use and proper disposal of the pickling solution, please be environmentally responsible and follow the instructions carefully included with the product.

## **FINISHING**

After firing, the piece is now pure copper. You can enjoy its beautiful metal luster by polishing with a metal brush, burnisher, polishing points and a tumbler.

Manufacturer:

 *Aida chemical industries Co., LTD.*

**ART CLAY™** is registered trademark in 17 countries in the world. Art Clay series products have patents or patents pending in more than 13 countries world-wide.