

Mokumé Gane Earrings

Using a Disc Cutter

steps:

Before you begin

Before using the **Swanstrom disc cutter** on mokumé gane sheet, we recommend practicing on a less expensive metal such as copper.

1. Decide the diameter you would like your mokumé gane disc earrings to be. Using a **permanent marker** and the **circle template**, trace the correct size onto the **mokumé gane sheet**.
2. Slide the sheet between the two metal discs of the Swanstrom disc cutter, placing your traced circle directly under the appropriate circle of the cutter. Turn the black handle on top of the cutter until the sheet is clamped securely in place.
3. Place the disc cutter on a small **block of wood**; this will protect the punch when you hammer it through the metal sheet. Choose the appropriate punch and place it inside the disc cutter hole, bevel side down.
4. Using a soft-head mallet such as a **brass head mallet**, hammer the punch through the metal sheet in one to several strong, swift blows. The mokumé metal disc will drop through the base of the cutter.
5. The edge of the disc will be very sharp. Use the **flat hand file** to smooth the entire circumference of the disc. Finish with a **400-grit micro-finishing sanding strip** adhered to the **sanding stick blank**.



Applying patina

1. Dip the disc in a **bowl of water** to prepare the surface for the patina. Rub a small amount of the **No-Name Patina Prep** onto the entire surface of the disc. Rinse in the water bowl. Repeat 2–3 times.
2. Place a couple drops of the **Baldwin's patina** on the patterned side of the disc and rub it in with your fingertip or with a **cotton swab**. Wipe off the excess with a **paper towel**.

Once you've finished applying the patina, you can drill a small hole near one edge to add **ear wires**. Try dapping the discs to create domed shapes and hammered finishes.

supplies:

Description	Order #	Qty.
Swanstrom disc cutter	112-509	1
Brass head mallet, 2-lb.	112-330	1
Micro-finishing sanding strips	337-053	as needed
Sanding stick blank	337-080	1
Block of wood	—	1
Circle template	—	1
Flat hand file, #4 German cut	114-702	1
Mokumé gane sheet, agate pattern; 3" x 3"	103-500	1 sheet
Citation safety glasses, clear	201-053	1 pair
Baldwin's patina	335-020	1 bottle
No-Name Patina Prep	335-021	1 jar
Permanent marker	—	1
Bowl of water	—	1
Cotton swab/paper towels	—	as needed
Ear Wires	692-184	1 pair

IMPORTANT!

Always wear your
Citation safety glasses
when cutting metal.



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