

1402-4

Patricia Kimle pairs polymer and metal clay for a set of beads using a crushed velvet surface technique.

Crushed velvet bead embellished with a silver leaf

Materials needed

Sculpey Superflex Bake and Bend polymer clay
Premo Accents pearled polymer clay
Hand balm or olive oil
6 grams metal clay
Easy paste solder
2 I" pieces 19 g. sterling wire
Liver of Sulfur or Black Max (optional)
Liquid Sculpey

Tools

Clay blade
Craft knife
Metal clay sanding pads
Soldering tools—ceramic fiber board, torch, tweezers
Needle tool such as a fine knitting needle
Wet/dry sandpaper, 320 grit, 400 grit and 600 grit
Jeweler's lathe with a muslin buffing wheel (optional)

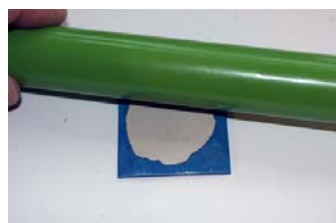
Instructions

1. Roll a ¼ package of Bake and Bend clay into a sheet about 2mm thick. Select a small leaf and roll the leaf against the clay. Bake the sheet according to the manufacturer's instructions. Cool.
2. Oil the surface of the mold with a light coating of hand balm or olive oil. Roll the metal clay to a thickness of 4 cards or about 2mm. Lay the clay on the mold and roll firmly across.
3. With a craft knife, cut around the contour of the leaf. Make the stem slightly wider and short as it will be a vulnerable point. Dry the leaf completely.
4. Refine the edges with a fine sanding pad. Fire the leaf in the kiln or with a torch as directed for the type of clay used.
5. Polish the fired leaf with a brass brush.
6. Place the leaf face down in a dapping block and hammer it in order to make the surface slightly rounded.
7. Dip the ends of the sterling wire in a dab of paste solder and solder the wires vertically onto the back of the leaf, making a "staple." If desired, oxidize the leaf and polish the piece to bring out the highlights.
8. Condition the Premo polymer clay and roll out 2 sheets about 3" x 3" and 2 mm thick. Roll one sheet into a snake. Lengthen and reduce the snake until it is about 8" long. Cut into 3 pieces and stack into a cane. Cut thin slices from the cane and arrange them closely on the reserved sheet of clay.
9. Roll across the sheet to close the gaps and smooth the sheet.

10. With another ball of clay, form a base bead the desired shape and approximate size needed. Pierce the bead with a heavy needle tool or press the needle into the back. Cut the shape out of the sheet and apply it to one side of the bead.
11. Position the leaf on the front of the bead, stabbing the posts straight through the base bead and press the leaf slightly below the surface of the front of the bead. Bake the assembled bead with the posts up. Bake according to the manufacturer's instructions on the clay package.
12. Carefully remove the leaf and sand the front of the bead with 320 grit sandpaper, keeping the bead and the paper wet and rinsing often. Continue with the 400 and 600 grit papers. Polish the front side of the bead against the muslin buffing wheel, if desired. Replace the leaf and fold the wires over tight against the back of the bead. Brush the back of the bead with a light coat of Liquid Sculpey. Apply the remaining patterned sheet to the back, smoothing the edges where the front and back meet. Bake. Sand and polish the back.



Step 1



Step 2



Step 3



Step 4



Step 5



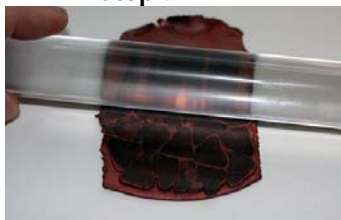
Step 6



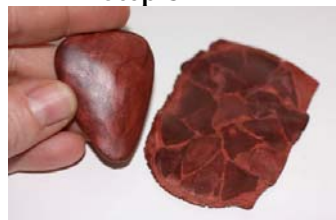
Step 7



Step 8



Step 9



Step 10



Step 11



Step 12



Finished Project

Guest:



Patricia Kimle