

1507-4

Mark Nelson oxidizes base metal components for a faux vintage look.

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**Please continue to page 2 for project instructions.**

**Guest:**



**Mark Nelson**



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# Oxidizing To Create 'Vintage' Components

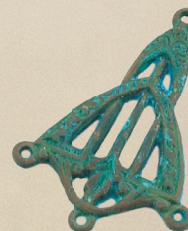
Vintage components glow with an unbeatable patina created by time. But with the right products, you can create those gorgeous colors once the exclusive province of Father Time and Mother Nature.

## Safety

As is true whenever you're working with chemicals, be sure to use proper chemical handling protocols. Wear safety glasses and rubber gloves. Many of the oxidizers emit fumes, so be sure to work in a well-ventilated area. Always ask for, read, and follow the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) with each of your oxidizers. This document will describe what possible harm the chemicals can cause, how to handle spills and accidental exposures, and how to dispose of used liquids.

## Technique Notes

- Heat, dirt, humidity, environment, the type of metal and how the metal is worked all affect the patina. In order for the chemicals to work, the metal must be clean and free from oil and dirt. Be sure to clean the metal thoroughly right before applying oxidizers using "No Name" metal prep, Comet/Ajax cleansers, Metal-Kleen or an acid dip.
- Follow the individual instructions on each oxidizer you use; they each work somewhat differently.
- Understand the limitations of patinas; a very durable ink-like black is very hard to achieve on metal. Other processes exist for achieving this look, such as physical vapor deposition or powder-coating.
- Patience and a sense of adventure are two good things to have when working with patinas, as they can vary from use to use. In addition, good note-taking skills will help you capture what you learn from each experience and help you repeat results you're happy with.
- All chemicals have different shelf lives and require proper storage. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions and the MSDS that is available with each chemical.



See next page for more information and supply list.

**⚠ CAUTION!** Always wear eye protection when performing these processes.

## Technique Notes (continued)

- Keep chemicals away from your tools; they can damage or discolor the metal.
- Be sure to use the appropriate oxidizer for the metal you'll be working with.
- Liver of sulfur gel works especially well on brass.
- Keep printed MSDS sheets on your bench so that they're handy in the case of a spill or accident with any of the chemicals. **Important!** MSDS information on Rio Grande products can be found at [riogrande.com](http://riogrande.com); simply search by product name or stock number.
- It is possible to create homemade patinas using recipes you can find in books, DVDs or online. Recipes act differently on different metals; the same recipe will produce a different result on different types of brass.
- The slower the rate of oxidation, the better the adhesion to the metal.
- The basic concept of patination includes three factors: metal, recipe and application.
- Patinas tend to evolve until they get to a set-point in their color. Sealing can help prevent this process; lacquer, spray lacquer, and wax work well; please note that all of these will change the color somewhat.
- The way the metal has been worked will make a difference in the results you get; for example, cast pieces will come out differently than hammered or rolled pieces.
- Try different methods of striking the highlights, such as Sunshine® cloth, T-shirts or ScotchBrite pads.

## Supplies:

Order #	Description
629-749	Brass floral circle component
629-750	Brass open bell component
629-751	Brass Celtic triangle filigree component
629-748	Brass floral filigree component
629-752	Brass art nouveau component
629-753	Brass round floral filigree component
629-747	Brass circle filigree component
629-755	Brass rectangle filigree component
629-754	Brass square filigree component
629-758	Brass rectangle filigree component
629-757	Brass triangle filigree component
629-756	Brass rectangle floral filigree component
629-760	Brass hammered washer, 2-hole
629-746	Brass floral heart component
331-030	Liver of sulfur, 8 oz.
331-033	Liver of sulfur gel, 4 oz.
331-040	MIDAS® oxidizer, red-brown to black; 1 pint
331-053	Black Max oxidizer, 4 oz.
335-021	No Name metal prep, 3 oz.
335-020	Baldwin's patina, 4 oz.
335-120	Green patina, 1 pint
335-125	Blue oxidizer, 1 pint
550-108	<i>The Complete Metalsmith</i> book by Tim McCreight
550-775	<i>Japanese Patinas</i> book by Eitoku Sugimori
560-406	<i>Patina Basics</i> DVD by Tim McCreight
550-142	<i>The Colouring, Bronzing and Patination of Metals</i> book by Richard Hughes and Michael Rowe
638-992	Colores® mixing cups, small
335-118	MIDAS® Metal-Kleen
335-123	MIDAS® Finish Seal lacquer
201-054	Citation safety glasses
—	Latex gloves
—	Plastic containers with lids
—	Powdered cleanser (Comet, Ajax)