

Tutorial Beginner Level Spiral Pendant



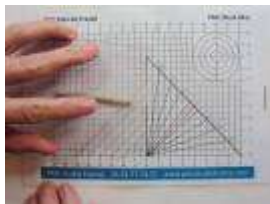
1 - Prepare your work surface and be sure to have all the required tools you need to hand.

Materials

7g PMC 3 clay, work mat, balm, teflon sheet, snake roller, spacers (or playing cards if you do not have spacers), roller, a texture such as a leaf, lace or texture mat, a pendant drill with a fairly thick setting to make a hole large enough for the jump ring. (If you do not possess a hand pendant drill you can use a toothpick and make a hole while the clay is still wet), sanding sponge, straw, burnisher, torch blower (or kiln if you have one) and jump ring.

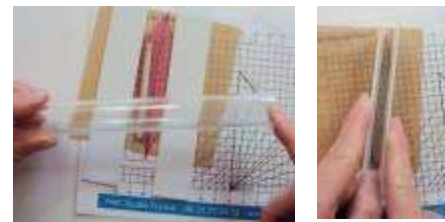


2 - Place your work mat, snake roller, texture, spacers (1mm) or playing cards out in front of you. Take the balm and oil the snake roller, mat, straw and texture lightly (If you do not have balm a little olive oil will also work). You just need enough so that the clay does not stick to the tools or texture.



3 - Open the packet of clay and roll the clay into a ball using the pads at the base of your palms. Place the ball onto the mat and using the snake roller evenly roll the clay to make a long snake, approximately 10 cm.

4 - Take the texture and place on the work mat then place the snake on the texture. Put your spacers or cards (4 cards to make the 1mm depth) either side and using the roller, roll the snake over the texture. Use the spacers to straighten up the sides of the strip.



5 - If you do not possess a pendant drill at this point take the tooth pick and make a hole at the top end big enough for the jump ring once the clay has reduced by approx 10%.

6 - Take the straw (be sure you have oiled the straw lightly with some balm or olive oil) and gently place the strip of clay around the straw in a spiral form.



7 - Allow the clay to dry thoroughly. If placed somewhere warm the drying process will be quicker. Once dry carefully remove the straw.

8 – Using a sanding sponge, smooth out the rough edges. Do not sand over the texture as this will remove the pattern that you want to keep.



9a - Place the clay on a torch block. The block should be placed on a tile or heat proof block of some sort. Be absolutely sure that the piece is completely dry before firing as any moisture left will cause the piece to distort during firing. Fill the torch with gas. Light the torch and move the flame slowly across the piece, heating the

piece evenly. You will see a little smoke and small flame as the non-toxic binder burns away. This is quite normal. The piece will then start to glow a soft orange colour. You need to keep firing the piece to maintain this colour for approximately 2 minutes. Be sure to maintain the heat evenly over the piece. When the heat is removed the piece will be white in colour. The piece is now completely fired. Either allow the piece to cool or quench it in water using tweezers.



9b – Place the piece in a kiln following firing instructions for a fast cycle.



10 - Take the brass brush and brush the white colour away leaving the beautiful silver to shine through. To get into the spiral parts you may wish to use a smaller ring brush or tooth pick wrapped in sand paper to get to the more difficult parts.

11 - Take the burnisher and gently polish the piece to bring out the shine. Do not use the point as this will scratch the piece.



12 - For those without the use of a tumbler take the polishing cloths and work through the colours starting with the most coarse to the finest. The order is green, grey, blue, turquoise, pink and white. Spend about 10-15 mins rubbing the piece with each colour. This gives a fine shine to your piece.

13 - Take the jump ring and using flat nosed pliers open it and place it through the hole in the piece. At this point you may also wish to add the suede cord onto the jump ring. Using flat nose pliers close the jump ring without distorting the ring shape and making the ends meet exactly. This keeps the strength of the ring.



14 - Your piece is now finished and ready to wear or place in the gift box to give to a loved one. You have now created your very own piece of fine silver jewellery!

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We sell starter kits and kilns and remain the cheapest supplier of PMC 3 in France. For those who want to get started we have designed 5 beginner kits which guide you through creating unique pieces of fine silver jewellery.

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