

How to...

Make an English Rose using Precious Metal Clay

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You will need:

- PMC3 16g
- Rose Cutter
- 5 Petal Calyx Cutter
- Paint brush
- Clayshaper Tool
- Badger balm
- Cup of water
- Fine sandpaper
- Kiln
- Stainless steel brush and burnishing tool or tumbler

Tip: Start by making the centre of the flower and working outwards.

Creating the centre

There are two ways of making the center.

Easy: Take a pea size amount of clay, roll into a ball and press the outsides into a rounded triangle. Use a Clay shaping tool to mark the petals.

Bud shape: Rub some badger balm on the edges of the rose cutter or dip in olive oil and cut out one rose. Use your clay shaper/needle tool to cut off three of the petals. (Replace the remaining clay back into the pouch.)

Stack the three leaves on top of each other so that they overlap on each side. Take them into your hands and create a rounded circle so that the last leaf meets the first. Mould to create an oval bud shape.

Creating the second layer

Roll out a piece of clay approx. 1mm thick. Cut out one rose and use your clay shaper/needle tool to cut off three of the petals.

Wrap the three petals around the rose centre.

Creating the outer layer

Again, roll out a piece of clay approx. 1mm thick and cut out one rose.

Add some paste in the centre of the rose and wrap the entire rose shape around the second layer.

Place the rose on a piece of Teflon and leave to dry.

When dry fill and sand.

Rub some badger balm on the calyx cutter and cut out one calyx.

Add some paste to the outside of the rose and add the calyx. Hold for a few seconds to allow the clay to bond.

Leave to dry before adding a bail.

Check your finished piece and fill and sand if needed.

Fire the rose on the PMC3 fast programme (700C for 10 mins).



Firing

A PMC kiln is the quickest way of firing multiple items. It is also the most secure when firing PMC with glass, cork clay or organic materials.

The Kiln can also be used for glass fusing and enamelling.

Product type	Temp	Firing time	Approx. Shrinkage
PMC3	700 C	10 minutes	10 %
PMC+/ Gold	900 C	10 minutes	15 %
PMC Standard	900 C	2 hours	30 %

Torch firing is suitable for smaller items as you need to keep the entire item heated. Once the binder has burnt off (pic right) the PMC piece will start to glow orange. This is when you start timing the sintering process.



Use your watch or clock to time two minutes. Keep the torch moving and do not get the piece too hot or it will start to melt and bubble.

Finishing

Matt Finish

Use a stainless steel brush to smooth the surface and achieve a matt finish. Use a bail brush to get inside your bails and small areas, and a ring brush for rings.

High Shine finish

Continue to smooth the surface by burnishing with an agate burnisher.

Add strength & Shine

Tumbling will strengthen your PMC and polish it at the same time.

The longer you tumble the shinier it gets!

Look online for Tools and accessories to embellish and finish your pieces.

Platinol and Liver of sulphur help define texture and pattern.

See our Fact sheets number 5 on antiquing solutions.



For further information and fact sheets contact The PMC Studio:

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