

# Make a Charm Watch using beads and Precious Metal Clay

Fact sheet page 1

March 2007





#### You will need:

- PMC3 9q
- PMC Paste
- Watch face
- Moulds
- Texture mat
- Badger balm
- Snake Roller
- Drinking straw for bail

- Cutters
- Hand drill
- Fine sandpaper
- Kiln or Torch
- Stainless steel brush and burnishing tool or tumbler
- Stretch Elastic- 0.7mm
- 2mm Crimps
- Selection of beads

## Charms

Roll out a small amount of clay using your roller and spacers. Press the clay into the mould and trim off the excess. Dip a wipe out tool in some water and use it to smooth the edges.

Some charms can be left as they are, or, to make tube charms and moons,

Take a piece of straw and wrap the circle around the straw. Wrapping it all the way will create the tube shaped charms whilst wrapping it half way will create the moon shaped charms.

Leave to dry and sand the edges.

If making flat charms or moon shaped charms, use a hand drill to drill the holes. Make sure the hole is a little larger to allow for the shrinkage of the clay.

### Round coil beads

Use a Snake roller to roll a coil approx. 2mm thick and 2-3 cms long. Run a damp paintbrush over the coil and let the clay absorb the water. (Once absorbed the clay should look opaque.)

Pick up the coil with your fingers and wrap it around a short straw creating 2-3 coils. Make sure the coils are pushed together tightly.

Smooth out any uneven areas and fill the gaps. Leave to dry. Once dry remove the straw by holding the coil and pulling the straw away.

## Heart shaped spacers

Roll out a slab of clay using a roller and spacers Rub some Badger Balm onto the rubber mat. Press the clay onto the mat to create the texture. Use a Heart cutter to cut the shape. Use a paintbrush to push the clay out of the cutter if needed. Use a damp paintbrush to smooth the edges. Leave to dry and sand the edges. Use a hand drill to drill a hole in the centre of the flower making sure it is a little larger to allow for the shrinkage of the clay.

Finish, fire and burnish all your component parts for your charms- then it is time to put the watch together!

Assembling the watch strap

Measure your wrist using a piece of string and a ruler. Copy the total length onto a piece of paper to use as a guide for the length. Remember to include the width of the watchcase. Take a piece of 0.7mm x 30cm (15") stretch elastic and thread through one end of the watch. Pass the elastic through so that the watch face is in the centre of the elastic. Take both elastic ends and thread through your beads and precious metal clay charms.

Continue until you have reached enough length to comfortably fit around your wrist.

Our Watch faces and Beads were supplied by Jules Gems.



## 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.

Fact sheet page 2



Hint: Where the hole of your bead is too small to pass through both ends crimp and cut one end and continue with the other end of elastic. Pass through your bead and use another crimp to re-attach the piece of elastic previously cut off.

## **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:

Tel: 0870 850 0151 E-mail: info@thepmcstudio.com Web: www.thepmcstudio.com