

24K Gold Painting Powder for Silver Instructions



This product was designed to allow for simple and easy application of 24K gold accents onto silver, and can be used on sintered metal clay, or machined/milled silver metal. This product can be used directly on fine silver, and .960 enriched sterling silver alloys that contain a higher level of fine silver. Traditional .925 sterling silver should be depletion gilded prior to having this gold product applied in order for a successful bond to form between the silver and gold. 24K Gold Painting Powder for Silver can be applied with a torch or a kiln.

Preparing the Silver Surface

If applying to sintered metal clay, leaving the silver “kiln white” or untouched after having been fired is best. Do not polish your sintered silver clay prior to applying the gold. Avoid touching the surface you will be applying the gold to as you run the risk of introducing oils that will impede the bonding of the gold to the silver.

If applying to a piece that has previously been polished, reheat the piece using a torch or kiln to achieve a white matte finish. Heat to a soft peach colored glow with a torch for 1-2 minutes or re-fire in a kiln at 1650°F for 10 minutes.

Mixing the Gold with Liquid Agent

On a glazed ceramic tile or palette, place a small amount of the gold powder and mix in a drop of the included solution with a mini palette knife. Add additional drops until a consistency similar to that of a thin acrylic paint has been achieved. The combined solution should be opaque, and well mixed enough to be smooth and not grainy.

Applying The 24K Gold

Paint the gold mixed with the solution onto desired areas of your silver piece using a brush dedicated to this process (to avoid contamination and preserve as much gold as possible). Allow one layer to dry completely, before painting on another layer. Two layers are recommended and can be applied in one firing.

Firing the 24K Gold

Prior to firing, allow the applied gold layers to completely dry. The dried gold is lighter in color than the wet paint, and this color change can be used as an indicator that the applied gold is ready to be fired. The gold can be fired either in a kiln or with a torch.

If firing in a kiln, heat the piece to 1470°F and hold at that temperature for 10 minutes.

If firing with a torch, heat the piece until the silver is glowing a peachy color and the gold is glowing a bright orange (it is recommended that torch firing is executed in a low light environment so that these colors can be readily distinguished). These colors indicate that the target temperature of the gold has been reached. At this point, begin to time your firing while maintaining that color with your torch. Heat your piece for 1-2 minutes, depending on the size of the piece.

Burnishing and Polishing

Burnishing your gold after it has been fired is key to achieving a successful bond. You can either burnish your piece while it is hot, or wait for it to cool. If you do not want to burnish it while it is hot, do not quench it. Instead, allow it to cool naturally before burnishing.

To burnish, use a smooth, round edged form- such as a steel or agate burnisher. Apply downward pressure and rub the gold surface down. Working in small circular motions while pressing down should bring the gold up to a beautiful shine and assure a strong bond between the gold and silver.

Product Storage

To avoid risk of quality deterioration, it is recommended that any remaining gold powder that has been mixed with the liquid agent is left to dry out before being scraped back into the jar and saved for future use. Alternatively, mix gold on a designated tile or palette, allow it to dry out after use, and cover the palette to keep out contaminants. When you are ready to use the product again, simply add the liquid agent to the dried out gold powder on the palette.