Art Clay Gold Paste Instructions



The following information is in addition to the instruction sheet that is enclosed within the Art Clay Gold Paste packaging.

Art Clay Gold Paste is designed to overlay over glass, porcelain, glazed ceramics and silver. The glass used in manufacturer testing was COE90; for use on glass with a different COE, test fire first. For application on silver, Art Clay Overlay Paste is required.

Art Clay Gold Paste on Glass, Porcelain or Ceramics

Preparation

Clean thoroughly with alcohol that does not contain additives. While some soaps (without additives) may also be used, plain alcohol is preferred. Allow piece to dry before proceeding.

Application

Gold Paste may be used either diluted or full strength depending on color intensity desired. For lighter gold, it is recommended to dilute with the medium in a ration of three parts gold to one part medium. Use a separate container and stir completely to form a smooth mixture.

The use of a medium will also enhance application for smoother drawing and longer strokes. Gold graduation may also be created with the medium.

Thickness of application should be less than 0.5mm or half the thickness of a standard paperclip. If additional thickness is required for design or darker gold color, fire first, then add a second layer and refire. Applying a coating too thick on the first layer may cause areas to come off with a layer of the base material.

Drying

Gold Paste may be dried in a dehydrator, on a warmer, air dried, or with a hair dryer (3 inches away). Be sure paste is dried thoroughly before firing, or moisture-related packing may occur.

Firing

Glass: Place glass piece in a cold kiln and fire to 1472°F / 800 °C with a hold time of 5 minutes. Open kiln door and allow to cool (crash cool) to 1112°F / 600°C and close door. Allow to cool to room temperature before removing.

Porcelain and Ceramics: Place in a cold kiln. Fire to $1472^{\circ}F / 800^{\circ}C$ and turn off kiln. There is no hold time. You may open kiln when temperature reaches $212^{\circ}F / 100^{\circ}C$ or below. Air cool to room temperature.

Finishing

After firing, the surface will be matte in color. Obtain a gold luster by polishing with an agate burnisher, metal burnisher or wet/dry sandpaper.

Use light gliding strokes to bring out the shine. Do not burnish gold too hard on glazed surfaces, as gold may chip off along with the glazed surface.

Art Clay Gold Paste on Pre-Fired Silver

Art Clay Gold Paste may only be used on fired silver. If applied to unfired clay, it will flake off due to shrinkage of the silver and burn-off of the binder.

Preparation

Area must have a matte surface. If polished, refire the silver piece in a kiln for 5 minutes at 1436° / 780°C or torch fire until the piece returns to the matte state.

If the silver piece has other materials such as glass or porcelain, refire for 30 minutes at 1292°F / 700°C. Allow to cool.

Surface must be clean. If the piece has been handled after firing, clean with alcohol to remove oils or dirt which may prevent adhesion of gold to the surface.

Application

Apply a thin layer of Art Clay Overlay Paste to the surface of the matte fired piece anywhere you wish gold to be placed. Dry completely. *It is the Overlay Paste that will strongly adhere the gold to the surface of the fired silver. Skipping this step will result in splotchy patches of flaking gold.*

Apply a smooth layer of gold paste on top of the Overlay Paste, and dry completely. Repeat, adding a second layer of gold, and dry completely again.

If necessary, gold paste can be lightly sanded with a 1200+ grit sanding material, but remember that the gold application is thin.

Drying

Gold Paste may be dried in a dehydrator, on a warmer, air dried, or with a hair dryer (3 inches away). Be sure paste is dried thoroughly before firing, or moisture-related packing may occur.

Firing

The recommended firing for this application of Gold Paste is torch firing. Place the piece on an appropriate firing surface. With a medium flame, bring the piece to where the silver is peachy-glowing and the gold is red-glowing. Hold for approximately 15-20 seconds at this gently glowing stage. Turn off the torch and allow to cool naturally.

If using a klin, place piece into a pre-ramped kiln at 1472°F / 800°C. Time for 1 minute, then turn kiln off and allow to cool naturally to room temperature.

Finishing

After firing, the surface will be matte in color. Obtain a gold luster by polishing gently with an agate burnisher or wet/dry sandpaper. Use light gliding strokes to bring out the shine.

Alternatively, tumble in stainless steel shot for at least one hour.