

HOW TO MAKE A FLAT RING USING A RINGMAKER

Please note: There are three different ring widths available to purchase: 5mm, 8mm & 12mm. Each set includes a part we call a "joint" which sets the ring thickness to 2.0mm. There are an additional three thickness available (1.5mm/2.5mm/3.0mm) by purchasing separately sold Joint Sets. See information about the joint sets at the bottom of this document.



Coat the inside of the upper, base and middle block with a thin layer of oil or Coolsip in order to keep the clay from sticking to the Ringmaker.



Using approximately 14gms of clay, form a seamless ball and flatten slightly. You will not use all this clay however you need to start with more than you need.



Place the ball of clay in the centre of the base mould.



Close the mould while holding the upper part vertically. With both index fingers push in clay from the centre hole into the ring-shaped gap.



Make sure that the clay is spread to all corners. If you see any spot where the clay has not reached, push it further to eliminate the gap.



Insert the middle block in to the hole and turn the mould around so that the hole in the base faces you.



When the inserted middle block touches the clay, start applying pressure with your fingers from the other side of the hole as well. Continue applying the pressure from both sides until the middle block is inserted all the way down.



Collect the clay removed by blocking and push down the middle block all the way and remove it.



Remove the upper part slowly. Slightly twist the upper part and try not to touch the ring while removing.



Leave the ring in the base part and let it dry. You can either let it stand at room temperature for a while or use a hairdryer on a cool setting. When the clay is almost dry you should be able to take it out of the base and then let it stand to dry completely. Do not use a hairdryer on a warm or hot setting as it can damage the acrylic the ringmaker is made out of.



Smooth the surface of the dried ring using sponge sandpaper.



Now you have a perfectly formed flat ring. Add stones or a top to the ring or leave plain. Fire as usual or fire using a ceramic ring shrinkage stopper if you wish.

SHRINKAGE ESTIMATION TABLE

RINGMAKER sizes		Finished Ring Sizes (*Japan sizes)
17	->	8 9 10 11
21	->	12 13 14 15
25	->	16 17 18 19
29	->	20 21 22 23

*Please keep in mind that the sizes on RINGMAKERS are Japan sizes.

COMMON PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS



Q. Removing the upper part, I found the upper edge of the ring missing or low-hanging. **A.** You can prevent this by making sure to apply pressure from both sides until the middle block is completely inserted (STEP 07). Remember, pressure from both sides of the middle block at all times until it is inserted all the way.



Q. I got wrinkles/cracks in my ring. **A.** It is likely that when you first rolled the clay into a ball there were some wrinkles, or the clay was too dry. If the wrinkle/crack is small enough, you can sand it off or, rub some clay into it after wetting the surface.



Q. My ring is burred. **A.** By firmly keeping the mould together with one hand at STEP 04, you can almost completely eliminate burrs. If you still get them, you can remove them by hand, no problem.

ABOUT THE FLAT RING JOINT SET

Joint Sets are not usable alone. You should first get a Flat Ring Basic Set and then find a Joint Set with the same width and size as the Basic Set.



The pictures above show the 5mm wide flat joint set. The joint set has a 1.5mm, 2.5mm and 3.0mm sized maker with it so as long as you have the 5mm wide Flat Ring Basic Set ringmaker, you can make a 5mm wide ring with a thickness of 1.5mm, 2.5mm and 3.0mm (as well as the 2mm thickness which comes standard with the 5mm Flat Ring Basic Set).



The pictures above show the 8mm wide flat joint set. The joint set has a 1.5mm, 2.5mm and 3.0mm sized maker with it so as long as you have the 8mm wide Flat Ring Basic Set ringmaker, you can make a 8mm wide ring with a thickness of 1.5mm, 2.5mm and 3.0mm (as well as the 2mm thickness which comes standard with the 8mm Flat Ring Basic Set).



The pictures above show the 12mm wide flat joint set. The joint set has a 1.5mm, 2.5mm and 3.0mm sized maker with it so as long as you have the 12mm wide Flat Ring Basic Set ringmaker, you can make a 12mm wide ring with a thickness of 1.5mm, 2.5mm and 3.0mm (as well as the 2mm thickness which comes standard with the 12mm Flat Ring Basic Set).

