

FIRING ART CLAY SILVER ON A COOKING STOVE



For proper and safe firing, read this instruction sheet **THOROUGHLY** before firing.

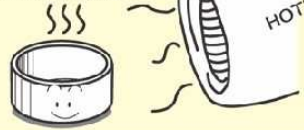
1 Dry completely.

Before firing, your piece must be completely dried. You can dry naturally for more than a day or you can dry with a hot-air-dryer for at least 15 minutes.



If the piece is not dried enough, it may break or pop-up during firing. It is very dangerous to fire non-dried piece. Make sure the piece is completely DRY.

※If you try to dry the piece with a hot-air-dryer, have it close (not touching or not too close to blow the piece away) to the piece for complete drying.



To check if the piece is completely dry, place the piece on stainless, glass or plastic plate and after 10 ~20 seconds pick up the piece. If there is no cloud of water vapour, it is dry. It is easy to check the cloud on a black or dark color stainless, glass or plastic plate.



2 Draw an outer rim of the piece.

To check if your piece had been successfully fired, draw an outer rim of the unfired piece on a sheet of paper. You will compare the fired-piece with drawn size as Art Clay Silver contracts 8 to 10% after firing.



※Size limitation:
Clay Volume: Up to 30 gram.
Dimensions: 5.0cm(L)×3.0cm(W)×2.0cm(H)

3 Prepare a bowl of water.

To cool off the fired piece, prepare a bowl of water. The bowl should be made of stainless or metal.



4 Confirming the Hottest part on a stainless net.

Place the stainless net (available at Art Clay NZ, Ltd.) on a cooking stove. Make sure the stainless net is placed at center of the cooking stove to be balanced. Then turn on the cooking stove. Confirm the most red-hot part on the stainless net.



5 Place the piece on the stainless net.

After confirming the most red-hot part, turn off the cooking stove once. Place the piece on where the most red-hot part was on the stainless net by using a pair of tweezers. Cover the piece with the stainless cage.



6 Firing the piece.

Turn on the cooking stove again and fire the piece for five minutes. You will initially see a flame from the piece. The flame is due to the binder burning in the clay. The flame will cease after a few seconds. You will see the piece starts turning red due to the firing.



7 Turn off the cooking stove and wait for at least 20 min.

Firing for the applicable time, turn off the cooking stove and cool off for at least 20 minutes. Do not pick up the piece right after the firing or the piece will stick to the stainless net. When the piece is cooled off, it will be able to detach from the stainless net.



8 Dipping into the water.

Cooling off for 20 minutes, pick up the piece with a pair of tweezers and dip it into the water to cool the piece completely.



9 Wiping off the water.

Wipe off the water well with a clean towel.



10 Checking the size of the fired piece.

Comparing the fired piece to the drawing of the unfired piece, if the contraction of the fired piece is not around 10%, it is not successfully fired. You need to follow steps from ④ to ⑧ again to complete the firing.



FAQ

Comparing a cooking stove firing to an electric kiln or a butane gas torch firing, is there any difference in contraction?

→There should not much difference among all the firing methods if firing condition is proper. However, the contraction may vary a little with type of the cooking stove and volume of Art Clay Silver that you use.

With this firing method, will the temperature reach to an applicable temperature for firing Art Clay Silver?

→Yes, if your cooking stove is able to generate a capacity of 2.9kW(2900 calories), and using recommended stainless net.

●Do not fire a piece having a supporting material such as a soft fiber cloth. Using supporting material will block the direct heat from the cooking stove resulting the firing incomplete.

●Firing method using the cooking stove is not applicable to make a hollow piece, coring with burnable materials, such as cork clay or paper clay.

●You can not fire Art Clay Gold K/22, as the firing temperature will not reach the applicable temperature.

●If you are firing Art Clay Slow Dry type or a thick piece, make sure the piece is completely dry before the firing.

How to make a stainless cage

