

Easter Cross Pendant

What you need:

All items are available from The PMC Studio, www.thepmcstudio.com, tel. 01494 774428.
The cost of the template is £5.40 and can be found under 'Cutters and Templates'.

Agate/metal burnisher or tumbler polisher
Badger Balm
Shape Template: Hippy Heart Crosses
Needle tool
Paintbrush and cup of water
PMC3 6.3g silver
PMC3 paste
Sandpaper
Snake roller
Straw
Roller and 2 x 1.5mm spacers
Rubber block
Stainless steel brush
Torch and block to fire or Kiln
Work mat and Teflon



Step 1

Rub some badger balm on your hands and on the brass plate. Remove the clay from the pack and place it on the brass plate. Place the spacers either side of the clay ON the brass plate and use the roller to roll it into a slab. Remove the clay from the brass plate and place it on the Teflon sheet, pattern side up.

Step 2

Working with the cross design at the bottom of the template (see illustration of the design on the template), press the template onto the clay ensuring the outline of the cross fits on the clay. Use the needle tool to mark the guide holes. Reposition the template so that the centre section of the design is positioned correctly by lining up the guide holes of that section. Use the needle tool to cut out the centre of the design. Reposition the template again using the guide holes so that the outline sits correctly over the centre section, and cut out the outline of the cross. Remove the excess clay and put it back into the PMC pack. Leave the cross to dry. Once dry, gently sand before adding the coil bail.

Step 3

On the work mat roll a coil using your snake roller. The coil should be about 2mm thick. Run a damp paintbrush along the length of the coil. Take a piece of straw and wrap the centre section of the coil around the straw. Join the wrapped coil section to the top of the cross using PMC3 Paste. Twist the two ends around each other and attach to the centre section of the cross using paste. Leave on the work mat to dry.

Step 4

Once dry, gently sand the cross all over. Should you have a fine needle file to hand you can also use this to sand the inside of the cross.

Step 5

Firing using a butane gas torch: Place on a Torch block. Gently heat the button using a Butane gas Torch, wait for the binder to burn off and time for a minimum of 3 minutes when the piece starts to glow orange. Quench in a cup of water.
If firing by kiln, for optimal strength fire at 800°C for 30mins.

Step 5

Place the fired piece on a rubber block and use a stainless steel brush to polish. To achieve a high shine finish, continue using a burnisher or place in a tumbler polisher with mixed stainless steel shot and 1/3 teaspoon of tumbler soap.
Aftercare: Polish using silver polish and a soft cloth.