

Update #3: Concave Earrings in Copper and Bronze

March 2014

Changing Places Landscape Earrings Concentric Circles

The Handbook of Metal Clay: Texture and Forms, (2nd edition), p. 24-36.

If done with copper and bronze, the recommended clays are Friendly Copper and Friendly Bronze, fired at mid-fire schedule (1510°F - brick; 1560°F - muffle). At high-fire schedule the circle in the earrings (p. 24) and in the pendant (p. 36) will not show a clear pattern because the copper and bronze are most likely to alloy and the copper part will disappear.

Using high-fire clays:

The pieces in all the photos are made with Low-shrinkage Steel XT, Friendly Copper, and Champagne Bronze.



What Other Clays can I Use ?

Assuming that high contrast is preferred, Dark Champagne Bronze can be used instead of Champagne Bronze, and White Satin can be used instead of Low-shrinkage Steel XT. The backing layer should be Low-shrinkage Steel XT even if it is not one of the overlays.



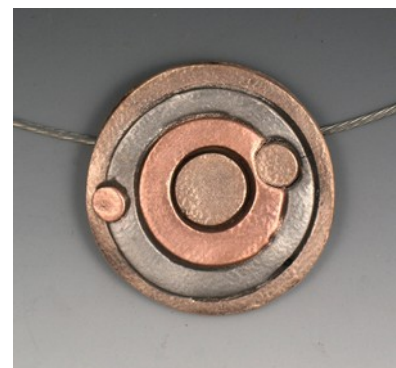
When using more than two clays the backing layer for all these projects should be Low-Shrinkage Steel XT, 6-8 cards thick (4 for earrings). The overlays should be about half this thickness.



Note that in all the pieces there are visible spaces between the overlays, which is what keeps them from alloying at the high-fire schedule.



Left: The piece on p. 30, top right, in Low-shrinkage Steel XT, Friendly Copper, and Champagne Bronze.



Above: the project Concentric Circles in Low-shrinkage Steel XT, Friendly Copper, and Champagne Bronze.