



COOL TOOLS

Diamond Burst Necklace

This gorgeous necklace is so easy to make!

Ours was made with a genuine 1/3 carat diamond that was fired in place with no damage to the stone. We used PMC PRO for our necklace, but you can use any metal clay you like. If you want to use a genuine diamond, be sure to loupe it first to be sure it is free from bubble inclusions.



Toolbox

Antique Mold Mushroom Cap ANT-255	PMC PRO Clay PMC-604	Diamond Tweezers TWZ-201	Copper Drying Form Round Medium FRM-252
4mm Round CZ, Lab or Natural Stone	No-Flake Firing Kit for PMC PRO KIT-300	Mini-Fiber Wheel Coarse POL-751	3M Polishing Papers Set POL-100

Mold the Clay



1. Make a patty from fresh clay and place into the mold. Using your thumbs with a rolling motion, press the clay firmly into the mold and outward to distribute it evenly in the mold.



2. Remove the clay from the mold carefully.



3. Place the molded clay on a drying form. Gently form the clay over the mold, pressing down the edges to conform to the mold. A Copper Drying Form is used here.



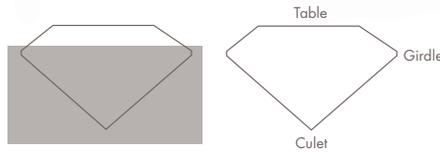
4. While the clay is still moist, pick up your stone with Diamond Tweezers. Place it in the center of the molded clay. We've used a 1/3 carat diamond, but you can use any stone you like that is 4 or 5mm in diameter.



COOL TOOLS



5. Using the Diamond Tweezers, press the stone down into the clay so the girdle is below the clay surface. Then allow the clay to dry on the form.



Grey area represents clay. Stone must be set so the girdle is below the clay level. This allows the stone to shrink-lock into place.



6. When the clay is completely dry, add a bail or drill a hole for the bail. For our sample, a clay tube was cut in half and pasted onto the back and allowed to dry completely. Next the seams were filled, sanded, and again allowed to dry completely.



7. Bury the piece in activated carbon inside of a stainless steel firing box, or to avoid the kiln mess, use a box made from No-Flake Firing Foil. There should be at least 1/2" of carbon over the top and below the item. Program the kiln to fire at full ramp to 1425F and hold for 1 hour. When the program is complete, vent the door by opening it about an inch. When the red glow has gone from the box, remove it using tongs and place on a trivet to cool.



8. After firing, antique the necklace using Patina Gel, then neutralize and dry.
9. Use a Coarse Mini-Fiber Wheel or Coarse Scotchbrite Pad to remove the oxidation from the back and front of the necklace. The mini-fiber wheel will remove oxidation only in the high spots and will also leave a satin finish.



10. Use a 3M Polishing Paper in 400 grit on the front of the necklace to give a softer matte finish. The back can be polished with a 3M Bristle Disc starting with 220 grit and progressing to the finer grits to desired polish. Buff the back with a polishing cloth as a final step.

Polishing PMC PRO offers many options. You can use hand polishing or motorized polishing tools to achieve any finish you like.