

Art Clay – Silver Porcelain

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Porcelain

The best glazed porcelain to use is inexpensive porcelain from China or Japan. In general the less expensive porcelain works better because it has a lower firing temperature. The glaze opens up at about 1600°F but should not melt until 1830°F (glazing temperature). When the clay is being fired at 1600°F, it will allow the art clay to fuse with the glaze.

There are several considerations for combining porcelain pieces with the Art Clay-Silver:

- Clay, Syringe or Overlay Paste may be used on porcelain.
- Clean the surface of the ceramic or porcelain with alcohol or soap and water to clean dirt or oil that may interfere with the silver sticking to the surface.
- Overlay Paste should be less than 0.5 mm. If the application is too thick, it may delaminate from the glazed surface after firing or by polishing.
- Encircling the porcelain piece with the Art Clay-Silver and creating design elements that are close together will help the Art Clay-Silver stay on whether or not the glaze opens up to allow fusion.
- Any stray art clay (back or front) must be cleaned off before firing or it will stick.

Firing Art Clay with Porcelain

Porcelain is somewhat forgiving with regards to firing, but care must still be taken to cool the piece slowly.

- Firing may be done on a bisque fired tile kiln shelf, the standard kiln shelf, or Bullseys firing paper.
- The art clay must be completely dry before firing.
- For clay or syringe, fire to 1600°F (Ramp 5) for 10 minutes. For overlay paste, fire to 1472°F (Ramp 5) - no hold.
- After the kiln beeps complete, push the button to make the kiln quit beeping. Walk away until the kiln has dropped to about 150°F. Remove the piece, but do not quench it. If the piece is cooled too quickly, it may break or crack.
- Piece may be brushed with steel or brass brush, burnished. Tumbling may cause delaminating.