

"All that is gold does  
not glitter, not all those  
who wander are lost'  
the old that is strong  
does not wither, deep  
roots are not reached  
by the frost."

# Galadriel's necklace

Create this delicate silver clay pendant,  
fit for the Lady of Lothlorien.

By Julia Rai

Julia runs the Metal Clay Academy and teaches a variety of metal clay classes around the UK. She holds the prestigious Metal Clay Masters Registry credential at level four.

The inspiration for this pendant is a character from Tolkien, Galadriel, the golden-haired Elven Queen of Middle Earth. The depressions in this pendant that hold the colour are achieved using the Silhouette CAMEO™ cutter to make a texture template. This versatile machine allows you to use a vast number of ready-made designs or create your own to use as stencils or patterns. Galadriel's necklace is coloured using glass paints but you could use enamel or resin instead.

*The Fellowship of the Ring* is the first in J. R. R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy. Frodo Baggins, the small, hairy, hungry hobbit is given the task of destroying a magical ring that has the power to destroy all of the worlds. This is an epic adventure, but surprisingly lighthearted because of the unlikely hero, leading to many laugh out loud moments.

## MATERIALS

- ▶ 20g of silver metal clay
- ▶ A little thick paste
- ▶ Silver headpin
- ▶ Chain and jumprings
- ▶ Crystal, pearl or bead
- ▶ Heavy paper or thick card
- ▶ Silhouette CAMEO™ cutting machine
- ▶ Fine pin tool
- ▶ Sharp craft knife
- ▶ Small needle files
- ▶ Small paintbrush
- ▶ Sanding pads/sticks/papers
- ▶ Tweezers
- ▶ Nesting circle cutters - brass tube works well
- ▶ Small ceramic tile
- ▶ Tumble polisher or brass/steel brush
- ▶ Pebeo Vitrea 160 Glass Paint

## Designer tips

- ▶ The Silhouette CAMEO™ - cutting machine plugs into your computer like a printer. Instead of printing, it cuts a wide variety of materials including paper, card, vinyl, thin plastic, heat transfer material and metal clay sheet.
- ▶ Download the free Silhouette Studio® design software from the Silhouette America website to make your own templates and stencils or a wide range of ready-made designs from the online store.



**STEP 1**

Cut your design from thick card or paper using the cutting machine. The thicker the template, the deeper the depressions will be in your finished piece. Roll out your silver clay at least six cards thick. You can use leather to texture the back but leave this smooth if you prefer. Place the template on the rolled out clay and firmly roll once to impress the pattern into the clay.



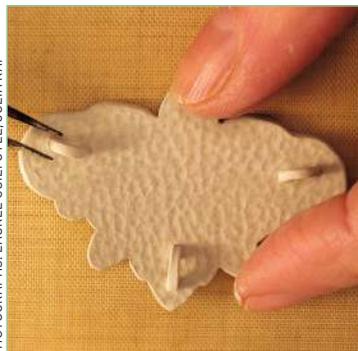
**STEP 2**

Using a pin tool, gently lift the edge of the template and very carefully remove it from the clay. Use a sharp craft knife or very fine pin tool to cut around the design, leaving 3-4mm as a border for the depressions. Don't worry about being too precise; just don't cut too close to the depressions. You will tidy this up and make fine adjustments when the piece is dry.



**STEP 3**

To make the bails and crystal hanger for the pendant, roll clay four cards thick and cut donut shapes with nesting cutters. Make more than you need as these break easily. Cut the donuts in half and leave to dry. File the edges of the dry pendant piece until smooth, then refine the shape, filing into the design if necessary, but make sure the border is consistent all round.



**STEP 4**

When the half-donut loops are dry, sand and refine them carefully all over. Make sure the ends are flat and smooth, then use thick paste to stick a loop towards the top on each side for the chain. Stick another loop at the bottom to hang the crystal. Clean any excess paste off immediately and dry thoroughly. Refine if necessary and then fire the piece using your normal method.

**STEP 5**

Tumble or handpolish the pendant before painting. Stir the paint and put a small amount onto a ceramic tile. Mix colours together if you want, such as combining two shades of green. Use a fine paintbrush to fill in the depressions with paint. If the paint on the tile becomes too dry, it will drag and look untidy so mix more as you need it. Allow to dry completely.

**STEP 6**

Pebeo Vitrea 160 glass paint requires baking in an oven to be fully durable, so bake the pendant before finishing the piece. Lightly polish the silver parts again after baking if necessary but avoid scratching the paint. Thread a crystal onto a silver headpin to make the drop. Attach this to the loop on the back of the pendant. Attach a suitable chain to the pendant using jumprings.

**Extra projects**  
Make earrings  
and a hair slide

**EARRINGS**

Use part of the template to make accessories. Roll out the clay as for the pendant piece and cut around the part of the design you want to use for the earrings. Attach loops to the back of the design to hang.

**HAIR SLIDE**

Texture the clay and cut out the areas in the design using a fine pin tool (rather than by adding colour), before mounting on a hairgrip.



PHOTOGRAPHS: LAUREL GUILFOYLE, JULIA RAI

**fashion inspiration**

Printed heels, £19.99,  
[www.internacionale.com](http://www.internacionale.com)  
Handbag, £23.99,  
[www.a-shu.co.uk](http://www.a-shu.co.uk)



**RESOURCES**

**Silver metal clay:**  
[www.bluebelldesignstudio.co.uk](http://www.bluebelldesignstudio.co.uk)  
**Silver metal clay, Pebeo Vitrea 160 Glass Paints:**  
[www.metalclay.co.uk](http://www.metalclay.co.uk)  
**Silhouette CAMEO™ cutting machine:** [www.mcsj.co.uk](http://www.mcsj.co.uk)

**CONTACT**

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