www.beadsandbeyondmagazine.com beads, beyond Crazy for colour!

earrings for Autumn Mixed

Wrap these vibrant wire

Media Make a pressed flower pendant

In this

issue... Chain maille, silver clay, stringing, bead stitching,

linking and more!











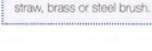
silver clay



snow! Create the feeling of a cold and frosty morning with this snowflake inspired pendant by metal clay master Julia Rai. About our designer... gather these supplies...

let it

resource for metal clay artists in the world. 3.5mm thick I also teach metal clay classes in Cornwall and around the UK. I hold the prestigious tools required... Metal Clay Masters Registry credential at level four and was the first person in the Roller, playing cards, cocktail sticks, world to achieve this level. paintbrush, craft knife or fine pin tool, small needle files, Teflon sheet, steel burnisher.



· 20-25g Silver metal clay

6mm Fireable cubic zirconia

· 40mm Sterling silver cable neck wire

small graduated circle cutters, drinking

Silver clay paste

shopping guide

I am one of the most experienced metal

clay artists and teachers in the UK. I run

the Metal Clay Academy, the largest online



simple to make but it's actually quite a challenge as it's a pierced design. This makes it very fragile in

his pendant looks deceptively

the dry stage and it requires careful handling. It takes advantage of the naturally white surface of fired silver

28 www.beadsandbeyondmagazine.com





2

silver clay

Create a paper template for your snowflake. Cut out a square of paper about the size you want your pendant to

be and fold it in half diagonally. Fold it in

half again so you have a smaller triangle.

centre to form a long dart shape with two

Out the 'legs' off either straight across

shapes into the sides of the dart and the

check on your design, then refold to

get a design you're happy with and it's

or in a curve. Begin to cut 'V' or curved

end opposite the point. Unfold the paper to

continue cutting. It can take several goes to

worth experimenting to get something that

Fold each side of the triangle into the

"legs" at the bottom.

Here's how ...

looks good.



transfer the rolled clay to a Teflon sheet.

punched clay onto another surface to be

onto the clay pressing down gently. The water will help the template to stay in place

Lightly dampen the surface of the clay and lay your unfolded paper template

This is so you don't have to move the

dried.

3

while you cut the design out. Use a sharp craft knife or pin tool to cut around your template and also remove the inside punched areas. Carefully remove the paper template and put the piece somewhere warm to dry.



wetting each surface and pressing them

to the front. The frosty finish is

After refining, you can add the texture

achieved by highly burnishing raised areas

together.

of the texture. To get this texture, use thick paste and paint it onto the surface of the snowflake, then run a cocktail stick through the paste to create deep lines. Add the texture in sections and allow each section to dry before moving to the next. Roll out the clay onto something with a subtle,

> shallow texture, like oiled leather, for an effortlessly finished back.

THE RECEEDS

Fire the pendant in a kiln at 900 degrees C for two hours for



CZ and cut a hole in the middle. The hole should be a little smaller than your CZ. Push the CZ into the hole making sure the widest part of the stone is right down in the hole. The flat top of the stone should be in line with the top of the plug so when you look across it, you can't see the stone. Allow this to dry, then stick the plug to the pendant using thick paste. Clean up any excess paste with a damp

paintbrush.



Snowflake Earrings

wear - or give - on Christmas morning.



