

# **ART CLAY SILVER 650 SERIES – INSTRUCTION SHEET**

## **CHARACTERISTICS**

Art Clay Silver 650 consists of pure silver particles, binding agent and water. The binding agent is produced from harmless pulp fibre. During firing, the pure silver particle solidifies. The binding agent consists of carbon, hydrogen and oxygen resulting in the release of harmless carbon dioxide and steam during firing.

## **PRECAUTIONS**

- Keep the clay indoors, out of direct sunlight.
- Do NOT refrigerate the clay.
- Use the clay soon after unsealing.
- Keep product out of the reach of children.

## **INSTRUCTIONS**

This product is water-based. If the clay becomes stiff during shaping, add a few drops of water and knead it well. You can prevent the clay from sticking to your hands by rubbing them with a few drops of olive oil first. Do not use rubber bands to wrap the clay in plastic wrap (they might discolour the clay). It is recommended your firing temperature never exceed 900°C/1652°F. Always be sure to ventilate the workroom. Take out only the necessary amount of clay. Place the rest of the clay in the original 650 bag or a zipper bag and keep it in a sealed container to prevent it from drying up. You may combine any unused portion of 650 with the original clay series (clay, paste and syringe types), but the firing condition should be same as the original clay series.

## **DIRECTIONS**

### **PREPARATION**

- Take out necessary amount of clay. When you use newly opened 650 or if the unused portion of 650 seems stiff, wrap in Glad Wrap or similar product and knead with the tips of your fingers, to soften.
- Because the piece will shrink 8-9 percent during firing, make the mould larger than the finished size.

### **MOULDING AND DRYING**

The clay must be dried completely, which may be done in the following ways:

- Hair dryer: At least 10-15 minutes with 1200w dryer. Place the dryer within 10cm/4in of the piece.
- Food dehydrator: At least 10 minutes at 60°C
- Oven: At least 7 minutes at 180°C
- Cooking plate: At least 7 minutes at 150-180°C
- Kiln: At least 7 minutes at 150°C
- Natural drying: At least 12 hours at room temperature

Do not apply heat over 250°C or the binder will burn away and the shape of the layer may change.

How to tell when the piece is dry enough: Place the piece on glass or plastic and after 10-20 seconds, pick up the piece. If there is sign of water vapour, it is dry.

### **FIRING**

Kiln firing: Bring the kiln up to temperature. You may use any of the three firing temperatures and hold times listed below. If you are combining with other materials (e.g. laboratory stones, glass), please check the appropriate firing temperature and hold time. If you are firing more than two pieces, make sure the pieces are not touching each other.

- 650°C: hold time 30 minutes
- 700°C: hold time 15 minutes
- 750°C: hold time 10 minutes
- 800°C and above: hold time 5 minutes.

You may fire Art Clay Silver 650 using a gas torch or on a cooking gas stove. Some restrictions and conditions apply.

### **FINISHING**

The surface of the fired piece will be covered with a white residue, which is the remainder of the binder. Lustre can be obtained by polishing (e.g. with stainless brush, burnished, buff polishing, file, sandpaper).

### **COMPLETING**

The completed piece is 99.9% silver and can be stamped SV999