

Rolled Leaf Pendant

This simple procedure for capturing the texture of a leaf or other organic item can be used to decorate rings, earrings, brooches, sculptural items, etc. Finished size depends on shape you choose to create.

MATERIALS

10 grams Art Clay Silver
Straw segment with small round open end
Oval jump ring
Leaf with nice shape or veining on back – This will be the design of your pendant.



ADDITIONAL TOOLS & SUPPLIES REQUIRED

- Non-stick surface, roller, plastic strips (1 mm) small paintbrush, stainless steel brush (short bristle), small files, 600, 1200 and 2000 grit wet/dry sandpaper, burnisher.
- Firing equipment.
- Cord or chain for finished necklace.

Drying Methods – may include hairdryer, oven, or toaster oven set below 250°F, food dehydrator, warming tray. Piece also may be left to dry naturally.

Firing Methods – include either by electric kiln, hand-held butane torch, or gas stovetop burner.

PROCESS

- ✚ Roll out clay type to a round or oval shape on non-stick surface, using plastic strips to maintain even thickness of 1 mm. If desired thickness is thicker, do not use strips. Do not make pendant thinner than 1 mm or it will be subject to breakage.
- ✚ Place leaf face up on the clay surface. Using the roller and firm, even pressure, roll the leaf into the clay.
- ✚ Using a small straw, make a hole for your jump ring. (If you choose to do this after firing, use a small drill bit with a pin vise.)
- ✚ Dry the piece completely with a hot air dryer, dehydrator, toaster oven (no higher than 250°F!) or at room air for more than 24 hours.
- ✚ Sand the area around the leaf with 600 and then 1200 grit sandpaper. At the dried stage, you may (although not necessary) be able to remove the leaf.
- ✚ Fire by either stovetop, torch, or kiln methods. _____
- ✚ After firing, brush piece well with a stainless steel brush to remove white crystalline coating.
- ✚ Sand with 600, 1200, and then 2000 grit wet/dry sandpaper to bring area around leaf to a mirror finish.
Optional Step: Oxidize with Liver of Sulfur to bring out detail.
- ✚ After oxidizing (if chosen to do so), rub surface around leaf with metal polish and polishing cloth to enhance mirror shine.
- ✚ Wash excess polish from piece with baking soda and water. Dry with soft cloth.



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