

Silversmithing at CityArts

Welcome to the Silversmithing Department! Whether you are new to jewelry making or a seasoned pro you are bound to learn new, fun techniques in the class! We hope this handout can be used as a valuable resource for reference of terms that will be used in class often, as well as an outline of popular materials students to tend to purchase and use for projects.

*** New Students will be supplied with a small copper square to use during their first class so that they can jump right in and start creating**

Requirements for class (*To be purchased by student*)

- Metal (usually copper or Silver)
- Solder
- Saw Blades
- Stones (If desired)

All tools are provided in class and are included in the price of class-

(Hand tools, Pliers, machine tools etc.)

All Chemicals are provided in class-

(Flux, Acid, Silver Black polishing compounds etc.)

These Items are available and can be purchased at CityArts

Saw Blades (bundle of 12 blades) - \$5 plus tax

Solder kits (Easy, Medium & Hard) - \$10 plus tax

Copper Sheets (2x2", 2x7", 6x6", 6x12") - \$2-\$9 depending on size (plus tax)

WE DO NOT SELL SILVER AT CITYARTS! YOUR INSTRUCTOR CAN LET YOU KNOW WHERE TO PURCHASE ONLINE.

These items listed below are a guideline only!! These Item numbers listed below are in the *[Rio Grande Jewelry Supply Catalog](#)*. Quantities ordered will depend on the projects the students plan. You are not required to order from Rio Grande. Free Copper wire of different gauges is available in class. Copper sheet metal can be purchased at the front desk.

Sterling Silver Sheet metal (the smaller the number, the thicker the gauge)

22 or 20 Gauge - # 100122

100120

*This is a SS Sheet. One dimension must be 6"

Sterling Round Wire

20G - # 100320

18G - # 100318

16G - # 100316

Fine Silver Bezel Strip (Used for setting stones) - #101051

Paste Solder - #103638 Easy

Copper sheet –

22 Gauge sheet (two 6"x12" sheets) - #133122

20 Gauge sheet (one 6"x 12" sheets) - #133120

Saw Blades - 3/0 (Not 3) size

18.95 for 144 Gross - #110087

Saw Blades Economy 3/0 –

10.75 a gross - #110191

*Drill bits are helpful tools in class but not required

*An Extra Fine Sharpie can be used for design and is helpful when planning out projects

* Graph paper is handy as well

Silversmithing Terms

Cabochons- Non- faceted, flat backed stones

Wire & sheet- both measure in gauges (1= very thick 36= very fine)

Work Harding- Hammering, stamping work

Hardened Metal- This can make the metal stronger, but also brittle and breakable if over worked

Annealing- heating metal to re-soften. Annealing with a torch makes metal malleable again

Dead Soft- Metal is malleable, as a general rule you will purchase Dead Soft in Wire & Sheet

Mallet- Rawhide for flattening & forming, will not mark metal

Hammer-Big variety for different uses

Mandrel- Any object around which metal can be shaped. Ex. Bracelet Mandrel, neck Mandrill, 2 Popsicle sticks, smooth end of a drill bit, etc.

Jump Rings- Can be round, oval, square wire used to connect jewelry components

Bale- the component on a pendant that a cord on a necklace passes through

Bezel- The metal (usually Fine Silver) That surrounds Stones and Holds the stone in place

Solder- Solder for copper & silver is considered hard solder, although it comes in Hard/Medium/ Easy/ Extra Easy (Solder is designed to join metal on a molecular Level. It doesn't fill gaps and does not rely on a surface "bead" for strength)

Sterling Silver- 925 parts silver & 75 parts copper

Fine Silver- .9999 pure silver