

ART CLAY SILVER 950

Instructions & FAQ

- The new product in the Art Clay family
- New silver alloy - high strength, high hardness, scratch resistant
- Pre-mixed clay form packaged in a jet black zip-lock sachet
- Available in 25g and 50g packages

ART CLAY[®]



More Strength

The surface hardness and bending strength of Art Clay Silver 950 is approx. 60% stronger than regular Art Clay Silver. Results may vary slightly depending on firing and size. Because of its high strength, it offers more design options and greater durability especially for works that are thinner, narrower, open ended (ring and cuff) and delicate, etc. The finished silver surface is also more resistant to scratches; this makes it a more suitable product for professional artists. Of course, it also has the unique silver color.



Pre-mixed Clay Form

The clay comes in AIDA's high quality, ready to use pre-mixed clay form, so you can start working right after unsealing the package! The moulding and drying process is exactly the same as with the current Art Clay Silver Clay Type.

Clay Components Ratio, Shrinkage and Purity after Firing

The clay is 90% silver and copper alloy powder, and 10% is binder and water.

Purity after firing is Silver 950. It shrinks a little more than the regular Art Clay Silver series after firing (approx. 11-13%), so for ring making, please check the shrinkage guide.

Ring size shrinkage		
When the band is 3mm in thickness, make the ring 3 to 4 sizes larger than desired.	When the band is flat (1.5mm in thickness and 10mm wide), make the ring 4 to 5 sizes larger than desired.	When the band is greater in thickness and width than the rings mentioned at left, make the ring 5 to 6 sizes larger than desired.

Japanese sizes

Firing

Another great feature is that you DO NOT need carbon to fire. No extra preparation for firing is needed and you make no extra mess! Always fire in an electric kiln with temperature control. This product is not suitable for gas stove or torch firing. Please make sure to read firing instructions as the conditions are different from the regular Art Clay Silver series.

Firing Instructions

1. Mould and dry as usual.
2. Put your piece in a room temperature kiln.
3. Heat to 500°C (932°F) and hold for 30 mins.
4. Set the kiln temp to 870°C (1598°F), and hold it at 870°C for 60 mins.
5. Turn off the kiln and wait until the kiln temperature drops to 200°C (392°F)
6. Take the piece out and wait until the piece cools down completely or leave it until the kiln drops to room temperature.

Storage

Since Art Clay Silver will dry out naturally during usage, take out only the required working amount, and wrap the remainder tightly in cling film (with no gaps between the clay and the plastic wrap) and store in a sealed container. If you wish to store for a long time, place in a refrigerator after wrapping.

Compared to when stored at room temperature, this will reduce oxidation. Please don't store in the freezer.

FAQ

ACS = Art Clay Silver (regular version)

ACS 950 = Art Clay Silver 950

SV = Sterling Silver 925

Q.) Does it feel different to work compared to regular ACS?

A.) Working with ACS 950 is not significantly different from working with regular ACS. If the clay feels a little stiff when first taking out of the package, knead well before use.

Q. Compared to regular ACS, is there a difference in drying time? Also do you have the strength and flexibility difference after drying?

A.) There is no difference in drying time. The strength and flexibility after drying are also almost the same as with regular ACS, the improvements only appear after firing.

Q.) For those with metal allergies, is there any problem with wearing and/or working with the clay?

A.) In some rare cases, there may be a possibility of reaction. In general, because of the high purity of the clay and when compared to SV925, which is generally used in jewellery, if there is no problem with regularly worn silver accessories, the possibility of reaction is low.

Q.) Can I make Paste from ACS 950 for fixing and joining dried or fired pieces of ACS 950?

A.) You can make Paste of ACS 950 by mixing with water, and you can use it for fixing and joining dried ACS 950 pieces. For fixing and joining fired ACS 950 pieces, please use regular ACS Paste Type and re-fire it at 800°C (1472°F).

Q.) Can I use regular ACS Paste type with ACS 950 pieces?

A.) Yes, you can use regular ACS paste type for dried and fired pieces of ACS 950.

Q.) Is it possible to mix ACS 950 with other ACS series? (Regular Art Clay Silver, Slow Tarnish)

A.) When combined with other ACS series products, the clay characteristics will change. Drying conditions and firing conditions will also vary, therefore it is not recommended to mix clay types as there is a possibility of damage during firing.

Q.) What is the shrinkage after firing ACS 950?

A.) Shrinkage is approx. 11-13% in length.

Shrinkage of regular Art Clay Silver is about 8 to 9% in length.

For ringmaking, allow close space for extra shrinkage (1 Japanese size more compared to regular ACS).

Q.) What is the purity after firing? Also, can the piece be hallmarked?

A.) Silver purity will be 95% after firing. You can mark your pieces [Sterling] [SILVER] [SV950] [SILVER950]. According to the definition of the UK assay office, silver purity above 92.5% but less than 95.8% will be hallmarked as [Sterling].

Q.) Is it possible to fire ACS 950 with synthetic stones?

A.) Yes, the same stone specifications apply as with regular Art Clay Silver products.

Q.) Is it possible to solder ACS 950 work?

A.) Soldering is possible but care needs to be taken; the porous quality of fired ACS and ACS 950 means more solder will be absorbed than usual.

Q.) Is it possible to attach Gold foil on fired ACS950?

A.) Yes, it is the same process as with regular Art Clay series products.

Q.) Can I store remainder of ACS950 in a moisturizing container?

A.) If ACS 950 is in contact with higher humidity in a moisturizing case, oxidation will occur. It is recommended to wrap it tightly with plastic cling wrap before placing it in the moisturizing box.

Q.) Do I need to use acid to remove any oxidation?

A.) You can use acid as a choice, but it is not necessary. It turns grayish color right after firing as there is a very small amount of copper in ACS 950, but it turns shiny silver with polishing.

Q.) Can I put ACS 950 in a syringe to use?

A.) Yes, you can use it as you would use with regular ACS. In which case, please use AIDA's recommended empty syringe.

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