

JE1021 SUPPLY LIST



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Precious Metal Clay for the Silversmith

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9am to 4pm

- Small container olive oil—1-2 oz is plenty. A dropper bottle is ideal.
- Emery boards (intended for nails) in various grits
- An Exacto or other razor-type knife
- A tissue blade, also called poly blade—a rectangular, very sharp blade about 5"x 1"
- One or more small artist's brushes. One should be a fairly flat, short-bristled type, ¼" wide more or less.
- An empty pill bottle, film can, or other small, water-tight container

Students may bring their own silver clay or buy from the instructor.

It will generally be slightly less expensive to buy from me unless you can catch a low price ahead of time.

Silver clay comes from two manufacturers (PMC and Art Clay Silver) and several formulations. For simplicity's sake, I prefer to begin with PMC+, but Art Clay Silver is fine too, as are any of the variations in either brand—they all end up as pure silver after firing.

I will bring PMC+ clay, paste, and paper-type, plus some fine silver wire that you can buy as needed. If there is a type you feel sure you wish me to bring, let me know ahead of time and I'll try to accommodate you.

Currently, a 28g package of PMC+ costs about \$44. The price fluctuates with the price of silver, and is unpredictable. This is enough to make one fairly heavy object, or up to perhaps 2-3 pairs of average-sized earrings. You should expect to need 1-2 packages per day at a minimum.

Paste is great for painting onto leaves and similar objects to pick up all the detail.

Paper-type can be used like paper—cut and appliqued, punched, folded.

Syringe-type, which I generally do not buy unless it is pre-ordered, is for squeezing out a thin stream like cake decorating. I find it hard to control.

There will be a variety of tools and materials available for you to use. The following list is all optional, but you may wish to bring some of the following things to make your pieces more uniquely your own and to avoid waiting.

- Texture sheets
- A piece of clear rigid plastic or plexi, about 4 x 6", for rolling coils
- Rubber stamps
- Any object or material with an interesting pattern or texture to press into clay
- Fine silver (not sterling) wire, around 18g to 22g
- Paper punches
- Dried or skeletonized leaves
- A printing brayer or other small roller
- One or two packages of polymer clay, color and brand not important (for making texture stamps)

Materials need not be explicitly for metal clay, but there are many suppliers who offer tailor-made metal-clay products.

Among these are:

Rio Grande, <http://www.riogrande.com/>

Cool Tools, <http://www.cooltools.us/>

Whole Lotta Whimsey, <http://www.wholelottawhimsey.com/>

Art Clay World, <http://www.artclayworld.com/>

As well as many others. A look at these sites may help you plan, but it is not necessary to load up on tools and supplies (unless you wish to!)