

Art Clay Silver 650/1200 – Low Fire Slow Dry Type

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866-381-0100
www.artclayworld.com

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[Characteristics]

Art Clay Silver 650/1200 Low Fire Slow Dry Clay consists of pure silver particles, a binding agent and water. The binding agent is produced from harmless pulp fiber. During firing, the pure silver particles solidify. The binding agent consists of carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen, resulting in the release of harmless carbon dioxide and steam during firing. This product is low-fire clay that can be fired at 650°C/1200°F and is pure silver (99.9%) after firing. The special formula of this product allows for combination with glass, porcelain and ceramic materials, and also suitable for firing with sterling silver findings or wires (SV925 and higher quality recommended). Do not fire a soldered piece with 650/1200 Low Fire Slow Dry Clay as the soldering temperature is lower than the firing temperature. The 650/1200 Low Fire Slow Dry Clay contains a moisturizing binder to keep the clay from drying while working. The moisture formula allows for braiding, weaving, and generally gives the artist up to **4 times** more working time. Working time may vary by the users' environment. It is a wonderful product for those who live in dry climates.

[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 may discolor the clay. Some kilns display a different temperature from the actual inside temperature. It is known that silver will melt at 961°C/1763°F. It is recommended that your kiln firing temperature does not exceed 900°C/1652°F. Take out only the necessary amount of clay. Place any remaining clay back in the original 650/1200 Low Fire Slow Dry Clay bag (or a zip-loc bag) and keep it in a sealed container to prevent it from drying out. You may combine 650/1200 Low Fire Slow Dry clay with the original silver clay series, but the firing condition should be the same as the original clay series. You may also combine 650/1200 Low Fire Slow Dry Clay with any 650/1200 series products (the firing condition is the same for both). If the clay is not completely dry, it can crack during firing. Do not bend any fired piece with unreasonable pressure. Keep the clay indoors, out of direct sunlight, and do not store in a refrigerator. For best results use the clay as soon as possible after opening the package.



- Dry completely.
- Always be sure to ventilate the workroom.
- Do not place hot pieces near flammable objects.
- Keep this product out of the reach of children.

If you get any of this product in your eyes or mouth, flush immediately with plenty of water and call your physician.

Preparation

- Take out only the amount needed for your project and wrap the unused portion of clay tightly in plastic wrap.
- Store unused clay in an airtight plastic container. To keep the clay moist, you can cut a piece of sponge to fit the bottom of the container. Simply moisten the sponge, insert the wrapped clay, and seal the container. If the clay is too dry to work with, leave the plastic wrap open to allow the clay to hydrate from the moist sponge, again replacing the lid to seal the container. **Note: Do not keep the clay in the refrigerator.**
- When you first open 650/1200 Low Fire Slow Dry Clay, or if the unused portion seems stiff, knead it in the palm of your hand to soften it again.
- **The most important thing to remember when working with 650/1200 Slow Dry Clay: Make sure it is dry before firing!**

Molding

- To join Art Clay Silver 650/1200 Slow Dry Clay together or to mend a jointed area you can use 650/1200 Paste, 650/1200 Syringe, or dilute 650/1200 Low Fire Slow Dry Clay into a paste. When using any of the preceding clay types as an adhesive, apply it to both pieces until they fuse together without a seam.
- Shape as you wish using your fingers, a mold, etc. If the clay becomes stiff, place it in a zip-loc bag, add a few drops of water, and knead it until it becomes soft.

Note: Remember that the finished piece shrinks 8-9%, so size your piece accordingly.

Drying

The following is a list of recommended ways to completely dry the piece before firing:

Hair Dryer	At least 10-15 minutes with 1200 watt hair dryer at a distance within 5~10cm/3in. from the piece.
Food Dehydrator	At least 10 minutes at 60°C/145°F
Oven	At least 10 minutes at 180°C/330°F
Hot Plate	At least 10 minutes at 150°C~180°C/300-330°F
Electric Kiln	At least 10 minutes 150°C/300°F
Natural Dry	At least 24 hours at room temperature.

Warning: Do not apply heat over 250°C/450°F. Once the temperature reaches 250°C/450°F the binder begins to burn away, causing the piece to change shape.

How to Check If the Piece is Completely Dry

Place the piece on a flat Stainless Steel, glass, or plastic plate. After 10~20 seconds remove the piece. If there is no area of condensation left behind, it is completely dry.

Firing

To fire, place the piece in a cold or warm kiln (below 300°C/570°F). (It is safest to start with a cold kiln.) Take at least 15 minutes to reach firing temperature. You may use any of the four firing temperatures and hold times listed below. If you are combining with other materials (i.e. natural stones, glass), please check the appropriate firing temperature and hold time.

Schedule	1	2	3	4
Firing Temperature	650°C/1200°F	700°C/1290°F	750°C/1380°F	800°C/1472°F
Holding Time	30 min.	15 min.	10 min.	5 min.

Note:

- If you are firing more than two pieces, make sure the pieces are not touching each other.
- 650/1200 Low Fire Slow Dry Clay is made for low firing conditions.
- It is recommended that you fire 650/1200 Low Fire Slow Dry Clay under 800°C/1472°F.
- You may fire 650/1200 Low Fire Slow Dry Clay using a gas torch or on a gas cooking stove. Some restrictions and conditions apply. Please ask for details from your supplier.

Finishing

- The surface of the fired piece will be white and matte due to the crystallization of silver, but luster can be obtained by polishing. (i.e. Stainless Steel brush, burnisher, sandpaper, file, etc.)

Completing

- The completed piece is pure silver (99.9%).

ART CLAY WORLD USA
 4535 Southwest Highway
 Oak Lawn, IL 60453
 Direct (708) 857-8800
 Fax (708) 636-5408
 Toll Free 1-866-381-0100