

No Heat Enamel Jewelry

Materials:

- * Crayograph pressed crayons
- * 320 grit wet/dry sand paper
- * Self adhesive wonder foam
- * Pin backs or other findings
- * Gold fine point Dixon paint markers
- * Double stick carpet tape
- * Assorted small beads
- * Wire
- * Decorative cord or yarn
- * Scissors
- * Large needle
- * Die cutter and die of choice

Introduction:

Human kind has been adoring itself as long as time has been recorded. The practicality of such things has changed with technology over time. To express an opinion- show ones colors or affiliation to another- including the affection for a family member or to simple accent a feature of ones attire or dress. The reasons go on. Simple means of making light weight yet durable decoration are welcome...this is one you can enjoy on many levels. Please read entire directions before beginning.

Technique:

In general - you will color- locking out the surface of the sand paper with a specialty highly pigmented crayon. The special waxes in it will allow for a surface finish that wont transfer if you have colored deeply enough and then lightly buffed the surface. For stability and versatility- the backing is made of a light weight self adhesive foam. More highly designed projects may require additional layers- and therefore the use of a double sided tape to secure. It is important to keep jewelry in the proper scale- not too big not too small for its intended wearer.

Decide on a project (necklace-pin-earrings-an ensemble etc..) For each part to be made cut a general shape of the black sand paper. Color can be allowed to stay- just as is or the next layer of design is to make a minimum of 2 cuts through the design- and to reassemble the pieces. Adhere colored pieces to the sticky side of a corresponding piece of wonderfoam. (Shapes can be generally cut - die cut to match one another or intricately cut depending on overall choice for piece intended- remember to reverse- "right sides" on materials being die cut to match- like a left to right hand image).

The surface will not chalk when lightly rubbed with the palm of the hand (slight heat will help the wax blend and seal). If color is rubbing off-only the top surface of the sand paper has been colored- and there is not enough color on it to hold it down between the sand particles- color harder (in the instance where it is too late to add more color- the fastest and easiest way to ensure the color staying it is to briefly heat it with an embossing heat gun or very hot hair dryer.)

Most simple is to poke a hole and string the piece as a necklace. Next level is to imbed the cord or yarn between the colored piece and the sticky foam (not too close to the edge.) This is also a striking method for multiples of smaller shapes to form disc like beads. For a pin- the pin back should be applied to the foam before the colored layer: on the kraft back mark the length of the pin back. Set aside pin- poke with sharp scissors a small hole at the 2 marks, from the paper side. Fold down backing just past the holes - open the pin back and push the clasp end through one hole. Insert the end of the pin in the other hole and push it through from the sticky side. The foam will stretch to allow the finding clasp and pin through- leaving a clean non glued yet secure application.

(The bar portion of the pin back stays inside the piece) Close the pin back. Remove backing- adhere colored part. Same general procedure for earring backs or tie tacks.

Adding beads and wires-to extend from the piece or add to the surface- a squiggle of wire will not pull out and can either be a loop back to the piece to retain the beads- or can have one end tightly coiled to act as a head pin to retain the beads. Beads may also be stitched through the foam and colored layer as desired.

When greater stability or depth is desired add a second layer of wonderfoam to the back- keeping in mind that finding should always be through the bottom- most back layer. The most permanent bond between layers will be an adhesive to adhesive match- and double stick carpet tape is ideal for this kind of a bond. All materials can be trimmed with a regular scissors. The wonder foam can even be cut with safety scissors.