

Resources for Enameling

Enameling Books and Publications

There are many excellent books, this list is just a beginning...

Cloisonné Enameling and Jewelry Making by Felicia Liban & Louise Mitchell

Enamelling (New Craft Series) by Denise Palmer, Peter Williams, Jane Moore

Enamel, Enameling, Enamelists by Glenice E. Mathews

Enameling on Precious Metals by Jeanne Werge-Hartley

Enameling - Principles & Practice by Kenneth F. Bates (out of print - can be found)

Enameling on Metal by Oppi Untracht (out of print - can be found)

First Steps in Enameling by Jinks McGrath

The Art of Fine Enameling by Karen L. Cohen

Thompson Enamel Workbook edited by Tom Ellis

Glass on Metal, the magazine from Thompson Enamel

More Information on Enameling

The Enamelist Society www.enamelistsociety.org (check out the resources page)

enews.heywoodenamels.com

Enamels and Enameling Supplies

Schlaifer's Enameling Supplies

1441 Huntington Drive #1700

South Pasadena, CA 91030 USA

(626) 441-1127 (800) 525-5959

www.enameling.com

Thompson Enamel

P.O. Box 310

Newport, KY 41072 USA

(859) 291-3800

www.thompsonenamel.com

Artist Sites (with enamel examples - not necessarily PMC - here are a few...)

www.yvonnecupolo.com

www.kcenamels.com

gallery.heywoodenamels.com

www.enamelist.com

www.enamelguild.org

www.rickyfrank.com

Enameling Basics

Use Medium Temperature - Medium Expansion Enamels (for gold, silver, copper)
1400-1500 °F firing range

REALLY Basic Steps (Obtain complete instructions before proceeding!)

Burnish and clean PMC
Wash enamel
Test color!!!
Apply enamel, allow to dry
Fire at 1450 °F
Cool completely

Safety Considerations

Keep your enamel area clean. This prevents contaminating the enamel, and keeps you from picking up enamel on your hands or clothes that might be transferred elsewhere. Wear an apron when working with enamel and leave it in the studio. Wash thoroughly when you finish, and if you've been doing much sifting, consider changing your clothes and washing them separately from your other laundry.

Don't eat or smoke in the enameling studio. Keep small children and pets away from the enameling area to prevent them from ingesting the enamel as well.

Wear a dust mask when working with dry enamel. It is best not to breathe small particles of anything, but enamels contain substances which you would not want in your system. While lead-free enamels are available, some artists still prefer the leaded ones, and the same cautions would apply, especially keeping small children from lead exposure.

Wear eye protection when looking inside of the kiln. Shade 3.0 safety glasses will protect your eyes and still permit you to view the enamel surface.

Other safety considerations are using caution with the kiln and coming in contact with any hot surfaces. You may wish to use heatproof gloves or hot mitt to protect your hands from the kiln. Use something heatproof to set the hot kiln furniture on like a marble tile or stainless steel countertop.

Supply List

Kiln, enamels, distilled water, Klyr-Fire (or other adhesive), application tools, (spatula, spreader, scribe, sifter, washing jars, paintbrush(es), cotton swabs/paper towel, tweezers), dust mask, safety glasses (shade 3.0), firing tools (firing fork, trivet, base plate, heatproof surface).

Enameling on PMC Seminar

The complete seminar (with images) is available on CD-ROM.
For more information please email: catherine@cdpdesigns.com

Information compiled for 2004 PMC Conference by Catherine Davies Paetz