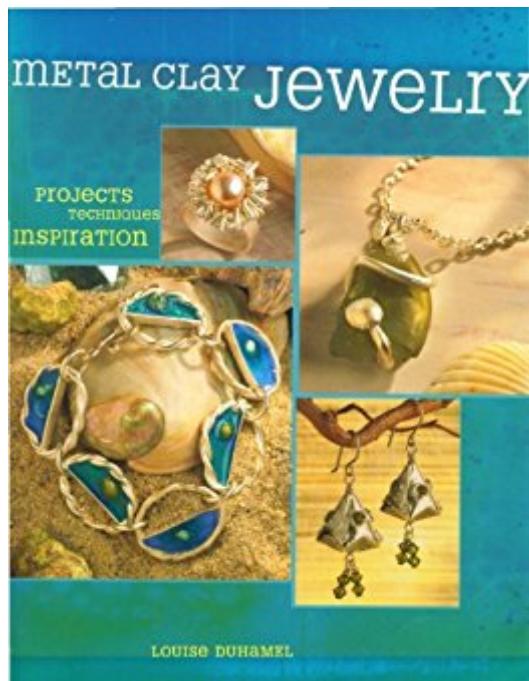


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# Metal Clay Jewelry: Projects. Techniques. Inspirations.



## **Synopsis**

Explore the endless possibilities of metal clay! Sculpt it, cut it, shape it, roll it. Just about anything is possible when you're creating with the amazing medium of metal clay. Whether you're new to its wonders or are looking for new ideas and techniques, *Metal Clay Jewelry* has it all. Metal clay artist and instructor Louise Duhamel starts with the basics of the medium explaining the different forms of clay and teaching the basic techniques. Then the fun really begins! In twenty projects created by Louise and other talented clay artists, you'll learn more fabulous techniques including origami folding with paper clay, sculpting with paste clay, enameling, creating hollow forms and so much more. With step-by-step photography throughout, you won't miss a beat as you explore this amazing medium. In addition, with variation projects and a gallery of stellar art by world-renown artists, you get all the inspiration you'll need to start designing your own metal clay pieces. Discover all the possibilities of metal clay today!

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Precious Metal Clay and Art Clay Silver are just about the hottest new craft materials of this decade, and for good reason! Imagine a material that you can sculpt and mold just like other clay, but the

end result, when baked properly in a kiln, is pure silver! New worlds of creative possibilities have been opened up to jewelry artists with the creation of this product, but finding a good book that not only introduces readers to the basics but also challenges intermediate to advanced artists is not easy. Louise Duhamel's new book, Metal Clay Jewelry, does just that. The introductory chapters do a good job of preparing newbies for working with metal clays, covering the tools and materials needed, finishing techniques, all the metal clay options from low-fire silver clay to gold clay, paper clays, syringe and paste clays, and much more. A nice firing chart for the various types of clay make this book a worthy reference. The author thoroughly explains your firing options, too, including kilns, torches, and other alternatives. A complete chapter on the basics is very comprehensive; I especially appreciated the section on the syringe clay basics. But one of my favorite chapters is "Let's Play with Clay," which details a wonderful variety of creative ideas including using hollow forms, setting gemstones, prong setting, working with bezel wire, adding findings, and finishing techniques including patination. Fabulous! A brief chapter on wire techniques is very helpful, too. But the best part is yet to come: The Projects! Louise Duhamel is a popular workshop instructor who has taught her award-winning designs and techniques across the country, so she knows all the top artists working with metal clay.

Metal Clay, sounds like an oxymoron. How can two elements so different be associated? For anyone that hasn't tried Precious Metal Clay and Art Clay Silver--clays that change into Silver or Gold--Louise Duhamel created the one book the reader will ever need. When I purchased "Metal Clay Jewelry," I read all of the projects after glancing through techniques I was not completely familiar with. For me, this was highly unusual. I buy many books that peak my interest, usually glance through them, then place them on the shelf for reference. "Metal Clay Jewelry" was so well put together that it did not jump onto my bookshelf. I have most of the major Metal Clay books. "Metal Clay Jewelry" is the best book on the subject. First, the topics covered under the section "The Magic Of Metal Clay" were complete--covering making texture, making molds, creating hollow forms, adding gemstones and findings, and discussing all types of metal clays and their uses--so anyone, from beginner to expert can create their own masterpiece. Many types of art clay products that were covered, I have never seen in any other metal clay book published. Secondly, the section "Making the Projects" is so unique, using objects I would never imagine using--cement, chandelier crystals, colored pencils, and floral foam to name a few. Some of these projects were made just by Louise Duhamel, but that was another wonderful aspect. Most craft books cover projects only by the writer. Louise decided to share the wealth and show the metal clay community some of the fabulous,

talented people out there--Barbara Becker Simon, Robert Dancik, Louis Kappel, Jane Levy, Maria Martinez, Anne Reiss, Gordon K. Uyehara, Shahasp Valentine, and Patricia Walton.

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