

Metals

“Enameling in Texture and Depth” By Barbara Kruger

Enameling involves the application of powdered, colored, transparent, opalescent or opaque grains of glass (leaded or un-leaded) to metal (e.g. copper, fine silver, etc.), using high heat of 1350°–1550° in a kiln for form a durable vitreous coating.

Texture is achieved by milling, hammering or etching metals, and design, by hammering, forging or using a hydraulic press.

MATERIALS / TOOLS / EQUIPMENT

Left to right:

Tools

Wet-pack enamels and tools for texturing

Sifters, spatulas and trivets



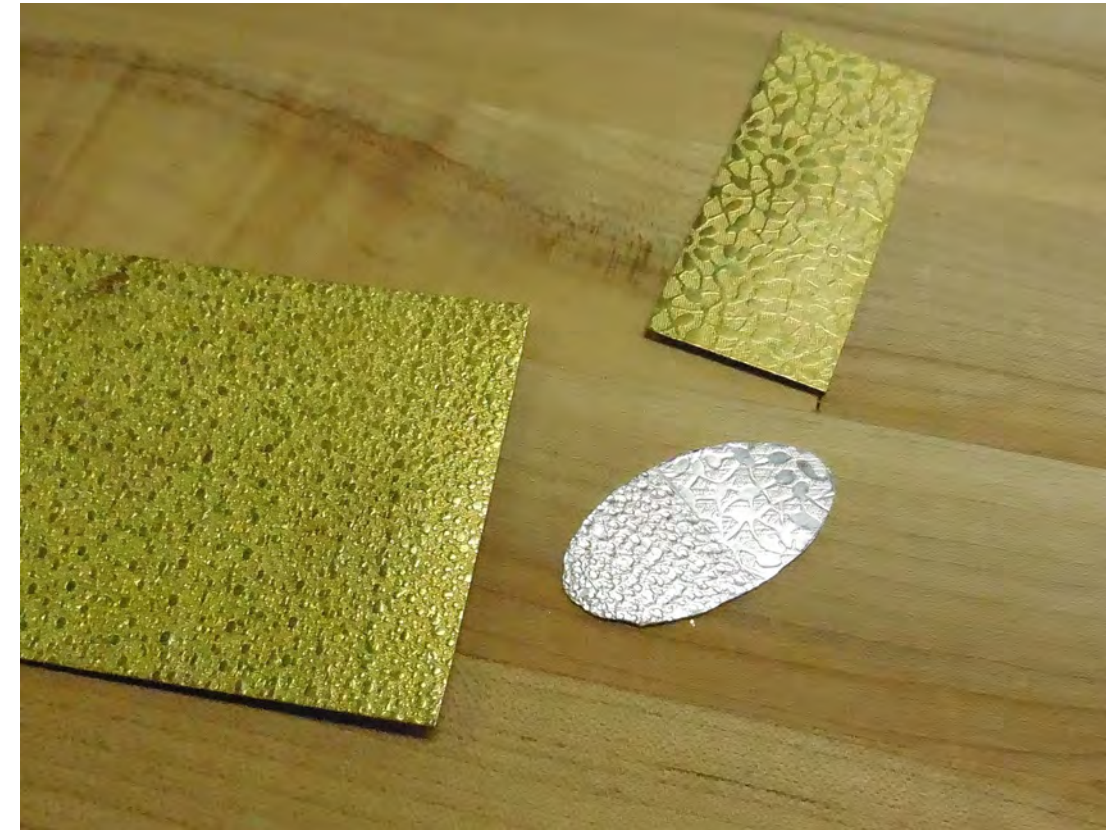
PROCESS

The colors are achieved by building several thin layers of wet-packed transparent enamels (or by sifting enamels) onto the metals. Sometimes pattern is added using stencils. Once dry, the whole is fired in the kiln.

Left to right:

Use a jeweler's saw to cut metal to the design

Patterns transferred by milling to fine silver



Left to right

Firing on wire mesh on a trivet in the kiln

Left: wet-packed enamels and right: sifted powdered enamels to test techniques



Top of the pendant—texture was added with small glass beads

Back of the pendant with small glass beads. Prongs hold the front and back with no soldering needed.



END RESULTS

Left to right: Sifted enamel pendant-pin set in sterling silver with gem stones

Textured and enameled copper pendant
Far right above: Milled texture, sifted, and wet-pack enamels are on the piece and the copper textured puzzle setting with special prongs has a patina on the textured surface

Far right, below: Wet-packed enamel w/ gold foil set in sterling silver on a beaded necklace

