

Mixed Media Mosaic Pendants

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Two-part epoxy clays are a great way to take those leftover beads and jazz up your beaded creations making people stop to ask, "Where did you get that?!" Add powdered pigments, mica or fine glitter as a 'grout' for your mixed media mosaic pendants to make them shimmer and shine.



Why Epoxy Clay?

The benefits...

- Easy to mix
- Wide range of designer colors
- No bake
- Self-hardening
- Work time: 30-45 minutes = tacky
 - 1-2 hours = easy to work, sculpt, etc.
 - 24 hours = hard cured and waterproof

Materials/Supplies/Tools:

2 Part Epoxy Clay (i.e., Apoxie Sculpt, Crystal Clay, DeCoRe, Ceralun, etc)

Rubber gloves

Beads, sliders

Assorted bezels (look online for a wide assortment, or check your local craft store)

Embellishments: fine glitter, mica powder, pigment powder

Tweezers/pliers

Waxed paper or cardstock

Baby wipes/hand sanitizer

Small soft paint brush

Toothpick

Process:

NOTE: Each bezel and design might be a slightly different process, but the basics are the same.

- 1: Plan out your design. Arrange beads in the bezel tray to be sure that you know they will fit and what the pattern will be.
- 2: Take a picture! Use your phone to snap a picture when you have the beads you would like to use so you can recall it when you are ready to add the clay.
- 3: Prepare your epoxy clay: pull off equal parts of part A and part B and roll into a ball, mixing the clay completely so that no marbling remains, about 2-4 minutes. You will have an open working time of about 2 hours (depending on the brand of clay used), with the tackiest time during the first 30-45 minutes.
- 4: Remove the beads from the bezel (be sure to have extra ready in case you need them!).
- 5: Place the desired amount of mixed clay into the bezel, keeping the clay away from the sides. If you want the bezel to be smooth, use a flexible tissue blade to cut the excess clay off the top (but be sure to use a baby wipe to immediately wipe the clay residue from the blade). If you wish to have the clay mounded, make it higher in the middle.
- 6: Use the back of your finger to gently buff away the fingerprints for a smooth surface.
- 7: Lightly impress the slider or bead into the clay. You can remove it so you can see where the clay will touch the clay, holding it fast. Continue adding the beads or sliders until the entire bezel is filled.

8: Place the clay filled bezel onto wax paper. Take a small soft paint brush and add the fine glitter or mica powder wherever the clay is exposed, lightly touching the surface. The tackiness of the clay will readily adhere the fine glitter or powder for a sparkle or metallic look.

OPT: impress a stamp or use a ball stylus tool to impress some texture to the prepared surface.

9: Set the pendant aside to cure for 24 hours.