



PMC CONNECTION

FIRING SCHEDULE

The PMC pieces should be completely dried. This can be air dried or dried with a heat source such as a hair dryer, heating tray, electric griddle or oven. To verify that a piece is completely dry, place it on a shiny metal surface such as a piece of aluminum foil or the inside of the lid from a candy tin. Leave the piece on the metal for several seconds and then remove it. Look on the metal for a “ghost”, a water vapor mark which is present if the piece is not completely dry.

A second method is to hold the piece against your cheek. The skin on your face is sensitive to temperature. If the piece is not completely dry, it will feel cool against your cheek.

When the piece is completely dry, fire it according to the applicable table.

PMC+ and PMC3 are fine silver particles in an organic binder with water. When fired in a kiln or with a torch, the binder burns off, leaving a 0.999 fine silver piece. The PMC+ sheet contains no water and feels like a sheet of vinyl. It has a long shelf life and is highly resistant to drying. In both instances, shrinkage is about 10%.

PMC+ silver:	Temperature		Hold Time
	1650° F	900° C	10 minutes
	1560° F	850° C	20 minutes
	1470° F	800° C	30 minutes

PMC3 silver:	Temperature		Hold Time
	1290° F	700° C	10 minutes
	1200° F	650° C	20 minutes
	1110° F	600° C	30 minutes

PMC Standard also is made of fine silver or gold particles in an organic binder with water. It has a shrinkage factor of about 30%. The firing schedule is as follows:

	Temperature		Hold Time
PMC silver:	1650° F	900° C	2 hours
PMC gold:	1830° F	1000° C	2 hours

PMC and OTHER MATERIAL

PMC, especially PMC+ and PMC3, works well with a wide range of other materials. Of particular interest is use of glass and ceramic materials with PMC+ and PMC3. When using these materials in combination, always remember to use the firing schedule which applies to the most sensitive material being used.

Thus, if using PMC+ with glass, the glass is the more sensitive material. Therefore, we recommend that the firing use a slow ramp (increase in kiln temperature) of about 1500° F per hour to the lower PMC+ temperature (1470°F) for 30 minutes. This temperature will result in a complete fusing of the glass into a rounded cabochon.

If it is desirable to retain surface dimension to the glass, we recommend the use of PMC3 and the higher PMC3 firing schedule (1290°F for 10 minutes). Even here, however, it is appropriate to use a slow ramp (increase in kiln temperature) of 1500°F per hour.

As always when firing glass, remember to guard against devitrification and thermal shock. We recommend a crash cool (rapid decrease in kiln temperature) from the hold temperature to 1000°F, then a natural slow cooling period to room temperature.

JUST KEEP ON KEEPIN' ON

One of the wonderful aspects of PMC, PMC+ and PMC3 is the low level of waste. All three products, if they become dried, can be reconstituted by the introduction of small amounts of water. Even after firing, you can place additional clay, in any of the four forms, onto a piece which requires additional work and refire the altered piece. You can repeat this process many times with no adverse effects on the piece. The materials are very forgiving and allow the user a great deal of flexibility in completing the final design. So relax and have fun. Your greatest efforts may await you in the next package of PMC.