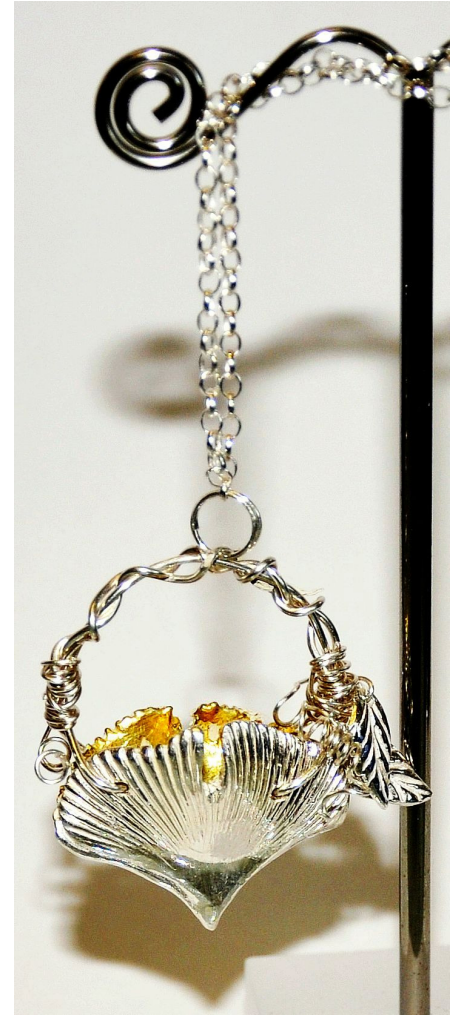


## Ginkgo Forest Basket

Inspired by our Style Stones Leaf set, this little basket makes a beautiful necklace. A great gift – it can also be hung an ornament.



## Supplies

### The Basics

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Teflon sheet  
Clay Roller/Slats  
Badger Balm  
Water and Brush  
Scalpel

### Clay

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PMC3  
(Our completed  
piece weighs 11g.)  
  
PMC3Paste  
Aura 22 gold

### Other Tools & Components

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Suzy Q #1 Rubber Stamp Mat (SM3-SZQ1)  
Style Stone-Leaves (SS)  
Drill Set (PVSET)  
Torch firing pad (TPAD)  
Torch

### Finishing

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Wire or Brass Brush  
Tumbler/Shot  
Shine Brite Polishing Compound (SHNBRT)  
2" x2" Ultra Polishing Pad (ULTPOLPAD)  
Agate Burnisher (BTSONE2)  
Micro-Mesh Polishing pads (3MSTP364)  
Sterling or Fine Silver wire-20 and 24 gauge

## Step-by-Step

1) Lightly coat surface of roller, hands and texture mat with Badger Balm.

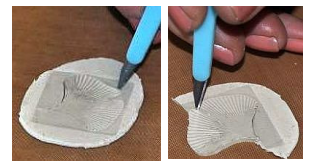
2) Condition each piece of clay before using by gently kneading and compressing into a smooth ball.



3) Slightly flatten the ball of clay, lay it on the Teflon surface, and roll to a depth of one slat (three cards).

4) Very lightly coat the surface of the Style Stone with Badger Balm and press the ginkgo leaf style stone into the clay. Make two of these ginkgo impressions. Let the clay set for a few minutes to firm up.

5) Cut out each of the ginkgo leaves with your scalpel and let set for a few more minutes until the clay can be handled without distorting too much.



6) On the non-pattern side of one leaf brush on a layer of paste just around the section that will become the bottom of the basket. Gently press the two halves of the basket together in that area.

7) Place the basket on the tip of the small finger of one of your hands and gently shape it. The edges can be shaped and pinched slightly to thin out the basket rim. Once the basket has been shaped and began to firm up, lay it down with a piece of cotton or bead inside to support its shape until it is dry.



8) While the basket is drying make an assortment of small leaves using the small leaf impression on the Suzy Q 1 texture mat. You can cut them to slightly different sizes and press them into varying shapes. Let dry.

9) When the all pieces are bone dry, refine any areas that need it with brush and water, filing, or light sanding.



10) With your drill, make two holes that pass evenly through both sides of the ginkgo basket. The wire for the handle will pass through these, so consider the size of the wire and allow for shrinkage when making the holes. They can be made larger after firing with a bead reamer, if needed. Drill a hole in the top of each leaf.

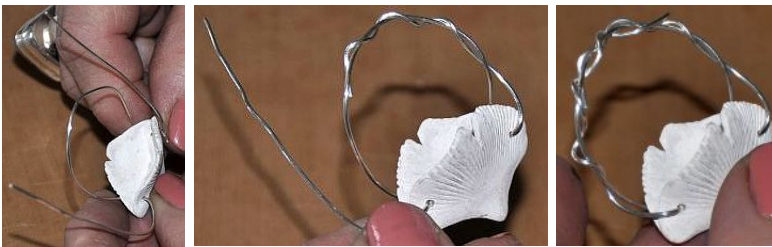
11) Fire the pieces according to manufacturer's directions for the clay you are using.

12) When the firing is complete, quench the pieces in cold water, and brush with a wire brush. BRUSH ONLY THE OUTSIDE OF THE LEAF PART OF THE BASKET.

13) Using the enclosed medium, mix the Aura 22 to a creamy consistency and apply it to the inside of the basket with a new or very clean brush. It is best to keep a brush designated for just gold to avoid contamination. Brush on a thin even coat and let dry. Apply one or two more coats, letting dry between each. Use three coats for optimal color.

14) When the Aura 22 is thoroughly dry, lay the leaf on a torch firing pad. With your torch, heat the piece gently until it just begins to glow. The gold will fuse at this point. When the piece is cooled, you may apply more Aura 22 if needed and re-torch.

15) Tumble the pieces to shine and work harden. After tumbling, burnish to heighten and shine and polish with the micro-mesh polish pad.



16) Insert a length of 20-gauge wire into the holes of the basket as shown. (Note: we used unfired clay in these pictures to make the wire easier to see against the basket. At this point, your basket will already be burnished and filled with gold.) Center the wire over the center of the basket. Bring each end through the holes on the corresponding side

and cross the wire back to the other side, first twisting one side across and then twisting the other wire back over the first. Clip off the wires at the sides, if needed.

17) Using 24-gauge wire, loosely wrap the handle on each side just where the two sides of the basket meet. When nearing the end of wrapping, attach three small leaves on one side by sliding them onto the wire, one at a time, wrapping one turn, sliding the next, etc. When all three have been attached, wrap one more time and then wrap the end of the wire around a toothpick to create a tendril. Cut the wire and arrange the leaves and tendrils as desired. Wrap the other side of the handle the same way, omitting the leaves.