

Metals

"Torch-fired Enamels" By Barbara Kruger

MATERIALS

Enamel sample plate, sifter, sanding sticks and various colored enamels in powder form
Powdered enamel is mixed in water before being applied thinly to metal and dried before firing.



TOOLS

Graphite pencils, underglazes and overglazes
Picks, spatulas, tweezers and brushes for applying and manipulating liquid enamel

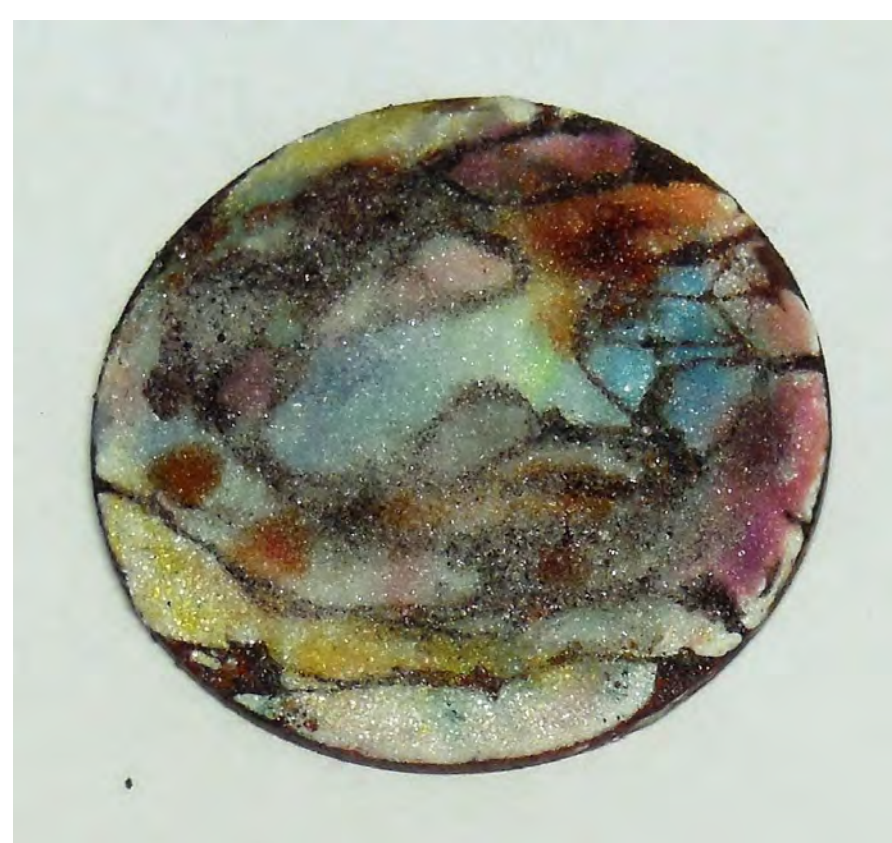


PROCESS



Mixing powdered enamel
Apply a thin coat of liquid transparent enamel and scratch the surface to make your design (sgraffito).
Allow to dry and then torch fire on a trivet on ring stand surrounded by a tin can with a window allowing you to watch for the desired texture.
Add small amounts of additional colors and re-fire with the torch.

END RESULTS



The final firing can be under-fired to achieve the sugar/granular or orange peel surface, standard-fired for a smooth surface and over-fired for particular desired effects. Graphite pencils, underglazes and overglazes can add shading and other effects. The techniques are illustrated in the samples above.

Cold connections, minimal soldering and metal and surface embellishments can be used to set your piece. You can use traditional bezel settings or prong settings to hold the enamel pieces in place.