



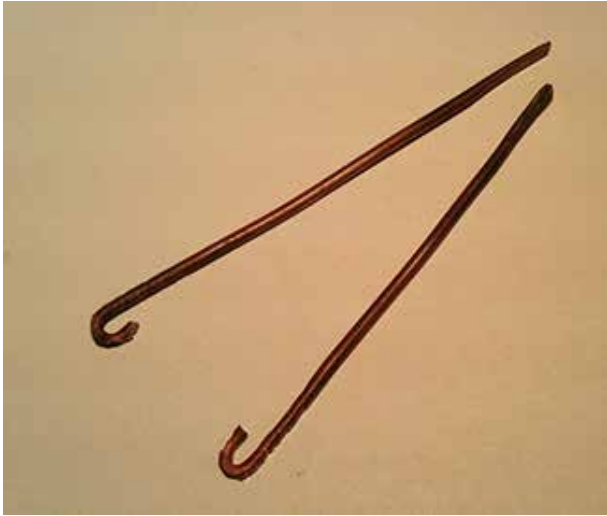
2Roses Pod Construction Tutorial

7 steps to a convex pod

tworoses@2roses.com

Step 1

Prepare Your Wire Stem



Use 16 gauge copper wire.
Cut lengths at least 2.5" for a longer stem and 2" for a short stem.

These have been cut to 2.5"

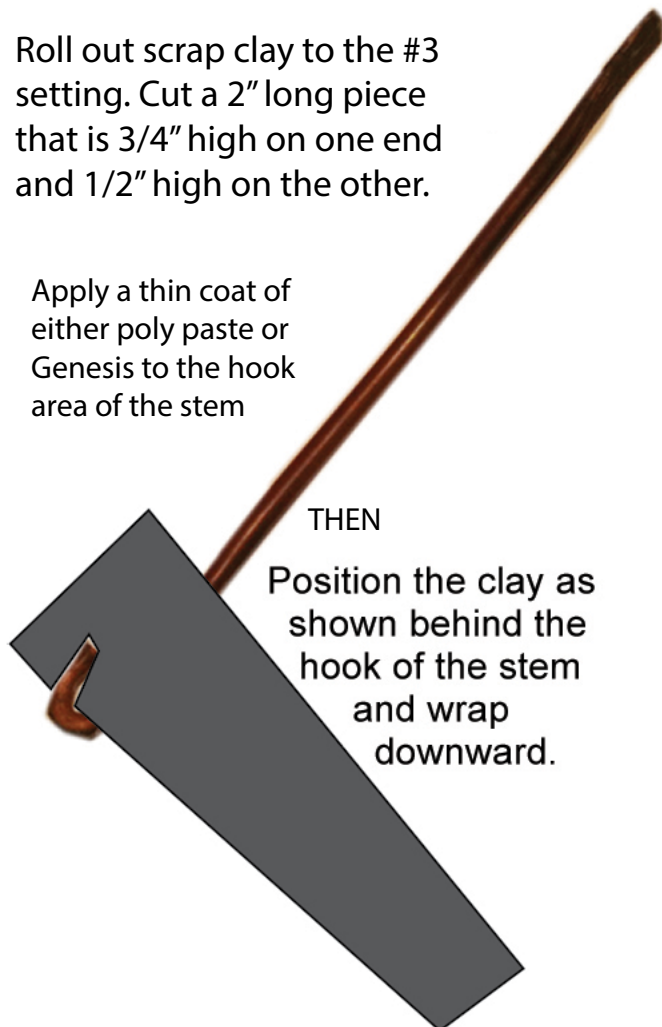
With a round nose pliers, curl up one end of the wire as shown. Take a flat head hammer and forge (strike repeatedly) the other end of the wire until flattened and flared, just like the end of a stem.

Step 2

Begin the first wrap

Roll out scrap clay to the #3 setting. Cut a 2" long piece that is 3/4" high on one end and 1/2" high on the other.

Apply a thin coat of either poly paste or Genesis to the hook area of the stem



Step 3

Finish the downward wrap



Wrap the clay downward over the hook in the wire. The entire spiral is around 1" long at this point.

Wrap snugly so the stem is securely wound in the clay. When finished, let this piece rest for 10 minutes.

Step 4

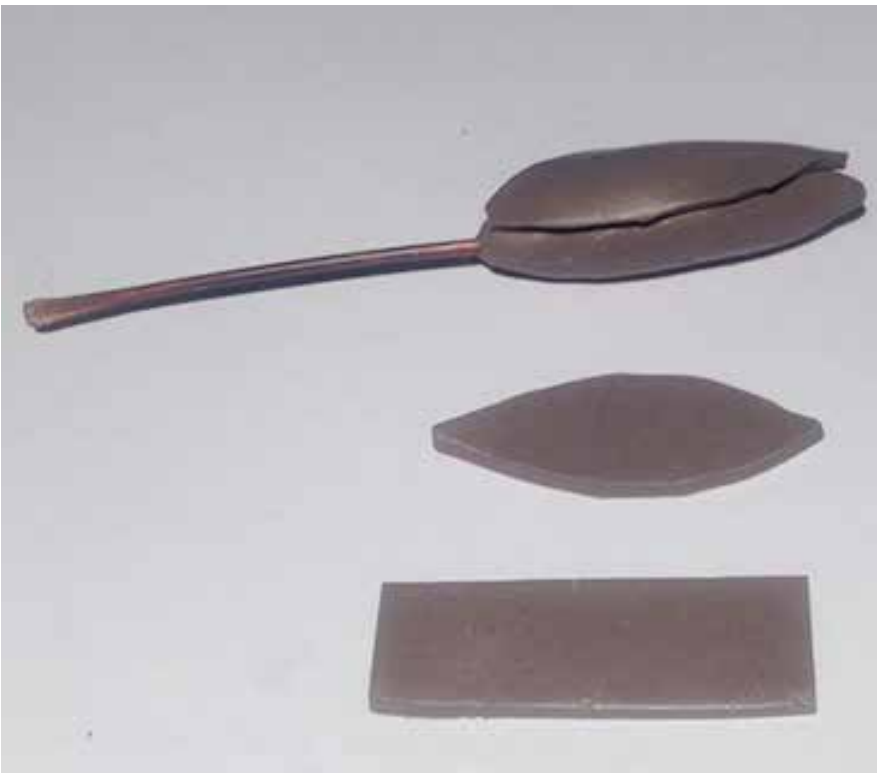
Make the base slightly larger



Roll out a sheet of scrap clay on the #5 or #6 setting. Wrap the pod base in one thin layer, roll gently and shape as shown. The piece is around 1.5" long and about .5" in diameter.

Step 5

Make the convex sections of the pod



Roll out scrap clay on the #2 setting. Prepare a strip that is as wide as your pod is long (about 1.5") and around 6" in length.

Determine how many segments you want to make. A minimum of 3 is recommended for your first pod. Cut a section out of the 6" piece that is approximately 1/3 the circumference of the pod base. Fashion it into a leaf shape with your curting blade. Apply the section to the pod base as shown. Do this 2 more times to make the 3 sections.

Step 6

Define the convex sections of the pod



Take a burnisher or a wooden ceramicist tool and gently push down the edges along the boundaries of the pod sections. You'll be making a "narrow gully" between the 3 pod sections. Smooth the inside of the gully with a knitting needle and dome each pod section with your finger for a finishing touch. Bake your piece according to your clay manufacturer's directions.

Step 7

Add your veneer and bake one final time

Make a 2-color skinner blend. Sheet the finished skinner blend it at a medium setting (#3 or #4) to make a veneer. Cut segments in the skinner blend just as you did when you made the convex pod sections (the rectangle cut into a leaf shape.) Press and blend the sections together making sure you get a defined profile with ridges. Apply texture if you wish. Then bake your pod according to manufacturer's directions. When cooled, twist your copper wire stem with a round nose pliers to form a pendant loop.

