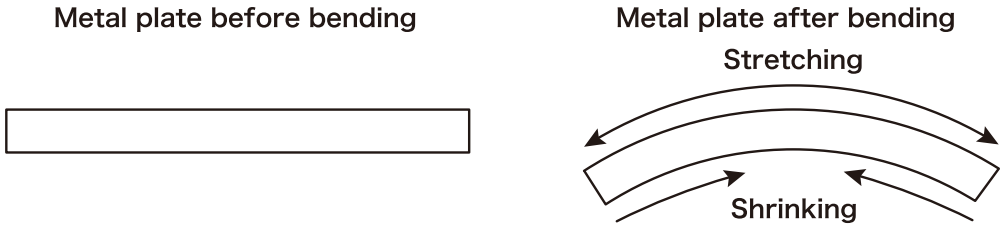
Tips and notes when working with Art Clay Silver 950

Surface hardness, and bending strength of Art Clay Silver 950 (Here in after; ACS 950) is approx. 60% stronger than fine silver Art Clay. So that less chance to make small scratches on silver surface, and extra elasticity as metal. *Results may vary depending on firing and measuring conditions.

Although ACS 950 has higher stregnth than fine silver Art Clay, it may break into pieces by extreme bending or reforming action which go beyond character of metal as well as fine silver Art Clay do same. Please note there are 2 different reactions taken place in the outside and inside of metal when you bend it.Outside will be extended, and inside will be shrunk. If outer surface cannot resist by extension, the piece will be broken apart.

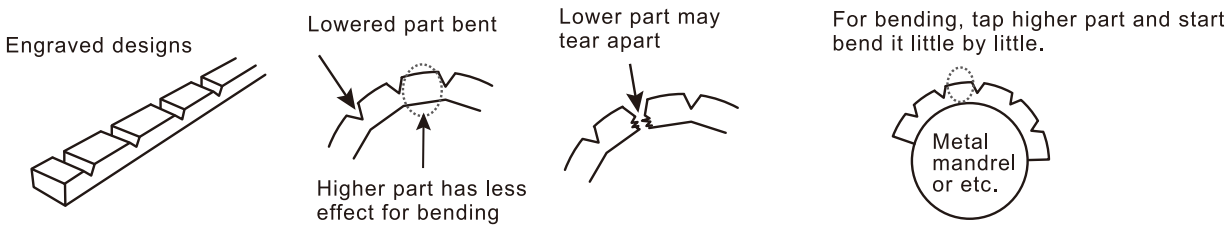


❶ Designs not for suitable for bending

Not only for fired Art Clay Silver, but also for many metals, designs explained below are examples not suitable for bending prorcess. In any case, make sure to place the piece on a metal stand (such as metal mandrel, and metal anvil.) when you bend or hammering. Work with piece consisentl by processing it little by little.

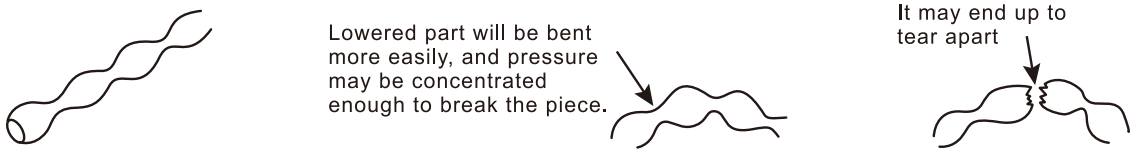
■If the piece has designs (patterns or engraving) which runs vertically to bending direction.

Lowered part will be bent more easily, and pressure may be concentrated enough to break the piece.



■If the piece does not have consistent thickness.

If the piece does not have consistance thickness as clay forming design, it may tear part. Also if the piece cannot be tapped to bend, it is not suitable for bending process.



■If the piece has connected, joined or repaired part.

Joined part, and repaired part are less strength than others, so it is not suitable for bending process.

❷ Metal is annealed after firing

Even alloy metal clay, it is soften when annealed after firing, so it needs to be harden. More bending process is continued, the metal will be harder. It may break apart if you bend the piece once it was harden. If it is harden by hammering, and bending, make sure anneal it before you bend more.

Ways to harden metal

- Tapping with metal hammer
- Polish in magnetic tumbler
- Polish with a burnisher to make it harder
- Bend the piece (Avoid over bending)

Annealing

Put your fired piece in an electric kiln at 800 Deg.C for holding 1-2 minutes for making it soften

*Annealing time depends on piece size.

❸ Free size ring design (Opened joint ring design)

You can take advantage of harder strength of ACS 950 to make Free Size (Opened joint) ring design. However, it is not recommended to make ring designs such as the ones you change ring size by open and close action frequently, and/or extremely thin or small diameter ring. When you adjust ring size a bit, please anneal it, then work on metal mandrel. Otherwise, it may end up to have break due to metal fatigue.