

Copper Mirror Instructions

Copper mirrors are dark peach – a little darker than a new copper penny. Our Kits include samples of copper mirroring on flat and textured glass.

The process of mirroring process is the same for all metals. These instructions assume that you know how to make a silver mirror. All of our instructions are available on our website. The checklist below outlines the steps for creating a Copper mirror.

Copper mirrors differs from silver mirrors in 2 ways:

- 1) Use Tin for Gold instead of Tin for Silver to sensitize the glass.
- 2) Use Palladium Sensitizer over Tin for Gold to super-sensitize it.

Mix Tin for Gold

- 1) Use the 10 ml cylinder to measure out **3 ml** of concentrated Tin for Gold. Pour it into the 16 oz measuring cup and add **16 fluid ounces** of steam distilled water. You may have more diluted Tin for Gold than you need, but you will have the right ratio of Tin to water.
- 2) Diluted Tin for Gold has a shelf life of 6 to 8 hours. Mix fresh daily.

Mix Palladium Sensitizer

- 1) Use the 10 ml cylinder to measure out **2 ml** of concentrated Palladium Sensitizer. Pour it into a measuring cup and add **2 fluid ounces** of steam distilled water. This is the same mixing ratio as Tin for Silver
- 2) Diluted Palladium Sensitizer has a shelf life of 6 to 8 hours. Mix fresh daily.

Notes:

- Use **10 ml each** of the 4 copper chemicals per square foot of glass (40 ml total).
- Mix the chemicals in clean glass containers. Do NOT use paper or plastic cups.

Copper Mirror Checklist

- 1) Set out chemicals, tub, rack, cleaning mat and glass.
- 2) Mix up the Tin for Gold as directed.
- 3) In a separate cup, mix up the Palladium Sensitizer as directed.
- 4) Clean the glass with glass cleaner and dry it.
- 5) Polish flat and 3-D glass with hot, wet cerium oxide and glass cleaner.
- 6) Remove the cerium oxide with a sponge, brush or paper towel.
- 7) Rinse it again with distilled water and tip all the water off.
- 8) Pour on at least **2 fluid ounces** of diluted Tin for Gold per square foot.
- 9) Let the tin sit for about 30 seconds and rinse it off.
- 10) Pour on at least **2 fluid ounces** of diluted Palladium Sensitizer per square foot.
- 11) Let the Palladium Sensitizer sit for about 30 seconds and rinse it off.
- 12) Measure out **10 ml** of each Copper Solution for each square foot of glass.
- 13) Tip all the rinse water off the glass.
- 14) Pour the Copper Solution, Copper Complexer and Copper Activator into a **clean glass** container.
- 15) Mix the chemicals by pouring them into another **clean glass** container.
- 16) Add Copper Reducer and pour back and forth 2 – 3 times to mix them.
- 17) Pour the mixed chemicals on the glass.
- 18) Rock the glass gently to get an even distribution.
- 19) Let the copper sit while it deposits on the glass – no longer than 20 minutes.
- 20) Pour off the chemicals -- into a waste bucket, not down the drain.
- 21) Rinse the mirror well with distilled water.
- 22) Stand the mirror on edge to dry.
- 23) When it is dry, back it with backing paint and let that dry completely.
- 24) Clean the face of the mirror.
- 25) Stand back and admire your handiwork - a “peach” mirror is a rare thing.