



Copper foiled heart template

In this tutorial you will learn how to make a beautiful copper foiled heart made of two pieces of glass.

You will need to following to create this project:

- Two small pieces of glass of your choice
- Glass cutter
- Breaking pliers
- Copper foil
- Flux
- Flux brush
- K Grade solder
- Soldering iron
- Pre tinned wire (optional)

The process

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Transfer the pattern above onto your glass.

If you are using transparent glass you can place the glass over the template, if you are using opaque glass then cut out the pattern pieces and draw around them onto your glass.

2 Cut out the two glass pieces.

Apply the copper foil around the edges of the two pieces of glass.

Tack solder the glass pieces together.

Use a small brush to dab flux onto the copper foil at a point where at least two pieces meet. Holding the hot iron tip close to the fluxed copper foil, melt a small amount of solder onto the tip. Place the iron tip on the copper foil and hold only long enough for the solder to melt onto the foil, joining the pieces together. Tack each piece in several spots so it will not move.



Solder all exposed edges of copper foil

Once all the pieces have been tacked together, exposed copper foil must be coated with a thin, flat layer of solder. Tin each foiled seam and fill in any gaps between the glass pieces with solder. This initial layer of solder makes soldering a finishing bead on the seam much easier.



6 Bead solder to give an even finish

Bead soldering gives seams a rounded and even finish and provides the necessary support structure to keep glass pieces in place. Try not to go over a solder seam too many times, as glass can crack if it's overheated.

Add a hook

If you would like to hang your final piece then add a small round hook at the top using a pre tinned copper wire and solder this on.

Repeat the process on the other side.

Allow the solder seams to cool for a few minutes before turning the project over and repeating the process.

Clean your glass

Once the project has been soldered together, clean thoroughly to remove any flux residue left on the glass. Flux solutions can be corrosive and cause the solder seams to oxidise and tarnish if not removed from the project immediately after soldering.



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Add a patina (optional)

Solder seams on copper foil projects can be left shiny and silver or lightly rubbed with steel wool for a subtler, pewter look. Applying a black or copper patina will alter the surface colour of the solder seams. Black patina will give an antique black finish. Patina is usually applied after soldering and cleaning. Regardless of the finish, protect solder seams from oxidisation and tarnish, with a thin coating of finishing wax.

Template pieces



Glass combination options

