

FORGED FOIL CROWNS

Metalsmiths often create wearable objects to adorn the body. This includes jewelry such as brooches, pins, rings, pendants, and tiaras. In this lesson, we are going to create our own adornment in the form of a crown. Aluminum foil can be hammered, squeezed, and formed just like steel in the Metal Museum's Smithy.

SUPPLY LIST:

Wire Aluminum Foil Glue Paint Paintbrush

INSTRUCTIONS:



STEP 1:Size Your Crown

To create a crown that fits you perfectly, create a wire ring that is the same size as your head. Bend two hooks at the end of the wire to create a clasp that will hold the ring together.



STEP 3:

Create Embellishments

Now that your crown is shaped, use the aluminum foil to create embellishments such as gemstones, flowers, or swirls. Use glue to attach your embellishments. Hot glue works really well because it dries so fast, but you can use any glue.



STEP 2:

Form Your Crown

Use aluminum foil to build up your crown or tiara. Wrap the aluminum foil around the wire and press it into whatever shape you like. Metal and clay behave in a very similar way, so you can press and mold the foil just like you would a piece of clay.



STEP 4: Add Color

Paint! Now that your crown is shaped the way you want it to be, add color! You can use any paint available. Acrylic paint with a little water works very well to give your aluminum a transparent wash, and this will allow it to keep its shiny metal surface.

STEP 5: Enjoy!

Wear your crown! Now you know all about creating headpieces out of aluminum foil and wire. Just think of all the amazing wearable objects you could make with these two materials!