

Bronze Age Jewellery



The Bronze Age was a time when people started making tools and other things from bronze. Bronze is a metal made from a mixture of copper and tin. The Bronze Age started at different times in different countries. In Britain, the Bronze Age was from around 2100 BC to 750 BC.

Jewellery was important during the Bronze Age. It was made from bronze and other precious metals. Jewellery included brooches and torcs. A torc is a loop of metal and it could be worn as a bracelet or a necklace. Follow these instructions to make your own Bronze Age torc.

You will need:

- air drying clay
- board or mat to work on
- clay tools
- paint - gold or bronze is best but yellow would work too
- newspaper
- water
- paintbrush

What to do:

1. Take a piece of clay and roll it into a long, thin sausage. It should be around 2cm shorter than the distance around your wrist.
2. Starting at the bottom, twist the clay all the way up to create a pattern.
3. Shape the clay to make a bracelet shape. The two ends shouldn't touch and there should be a gap of about 4cm between them.
4. Take two small pieces of clay and roll them into balls, slightly bigger than a pea.
5. Wet the ends of the bracelet with water. This makes the clay slippery and will help stick the balls to the clay.
6. Stick one ball to either end of the clay. You might need to press the clay firmly to help it stick.
7. Leave the clay to dry: it will take at least 24 hours.
8. When the clay is totally dry, paint your torc.

