

# No. 01

## { PATINAS }



*Exploring patina:*  
THE BASICS OF LIVER OF SULFUR.  
*Plus 9 ways to create stunning patina effects  
with liver of sulfur.*

Created BY PATRIK KUSEK

## FOUNDATION

# { ADDING PATINA }

**LIVER OF SULFUR (LOS)** is a standard for adding patina to silver surfaces. It's versatile and can give a wide range of colors and treatment options. Start off with the basic treatment, then progress to more elaborate options. Remember, LOS is not permanent so be sure to seal it with a coat of Renaissance Wax to help preserve the patina. The chart to the right shows some examples of different treatment options like using tape as a resist agent to create polka dots.



**1** Add a pea-sized piece of liver of sulfur (LOS) to some warm water. The water should be warm but not boiling. Stir to mix. In another container mix a teaspoon of baking soda with some fresh cool water.



**2** Use a wire to dip the pendant into the LOS. The pieces should be clean and free from any oils from your hands.



**3** Hold the pendant in the water until it starts to change color. The hotter the water, the quicker the reaction will happen. Take out the pendant and dip it into the cool water to stop the reaction. Check the color.



**4** Re-dip the piece again and the colors will change more. Take out and dip in the cool water to stop the reaction. The process can be stopped at any time to achieve the desired color.



**5** After repeated dipping, the piece will turn solid black. Be sure to dip it in cool water to stop the process.



**6** When the desired color is achieved, dip in cool water and dry.



**7** To make the texture stand out, use a ProPolish cloth. Simply rub the pendant with the ProPolish pad to remove the LOS from the raised areas. The LOS will remain in the recesses.



**8** Use Renaissance Wax to protect the piece and make the patina longer lasting. Rub on a thin coat of wax with a soft, clean cloth then gently buff.



**DESIGN EXPLORATIONS:** #1 Solid LOS, then LOS removed from raised areas; #2 Solid black, then tumbled in tumbler; #3 LOS dripped; #4 LOS plus 1 Tblsp ammonia; #5 Sharpie Marker as a resist; #6 Aftosa Ceramic Wax Resist painted onto surface; #7 Dipped to solid black, removed LOS from raised areas then re-dipped to lighter color; #8 Masking tape resist using a hole punch; #9 Hand painted using a brush and mug warmer to keep pendant warm.

PATRIK KUSEK

## { ABOUT THE AUTHOR }

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VISIT  
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Patrik's unique vision for his jewelry designs has won praise from jewelry collectors both nationally and internationally. His experience in the worlds of design and fashion helped shape his creative vision and brand. He is a graduate of the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising and The Academy of Art University. He worked as a Fashion Stylist at Macy's San Francisco and was the owner and Creative Director of Wallop Design Group, a graphic design and branding company.

He currently is able to pursue his passion as a jewelry artist and instructor. He teaches metal clay workshops in the San Francisco Bay Area and internationally. He is one of IO senior instructors for Rio Grande and teaches Rio Rewards PMC certification workshops internationally. He was a featured artist on HGTV's "That's Clever." Patrik's work has been published in numerous books and publications such as 500 Pendants and Locketts by Lark Books, New Directions in Metal Clay: 25 Creative Jewelry Projects By CeCe Wire, Lapidary Journal and MJSA Journal, among others. He was recently a featured artist in Ornament Magazine. He has written articles for Art Jewelry Magazine both on-line and print, Metal Clay Artist Magazine and has authored numerous tutorials for Whole Lotta Whimsy, Aftosa, Rio Grande and Craft-Cast.com. He is also the recipient of the 2007 Saul Bell Award 1st place in PMC.

Please visit Patrik's blog for more helpful information on metal clay and art jewelry. [www.patriksstudio.com](http://www.patriksstudio.com)

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