



QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

ART CLASS: JEWELRY

Making jewelry is an expression of oneself and encourages creativity. It can be relaxing, fun and an opportunity to be unique. Yet, art class environments have potential safety hazards that can be harmful to staff and students. As you prepare the class to make jewelry, consider these best practices.

Before starting a jewelry class, decide where it will take place. When you are using simple tools like pliers, hammers or hand saws, it is fine to hold jewelry class in the classroom. However, if you are using propane, acetylene or working with any chemicals, class should be conducted in a well-ventilated area in a room with a fume hood or outside.



Include these safety tips in your lesson plan:

- Provide the necessary and appropriate tools
- Provide training on how to use tools and other equipment safely (include competency tests)
- Ensure students are not wearing loose-fitting clothing or dangling jewelry, and have their hair tied back if they are working with power tools

- Train students on personal protective equipment (PPE) required for the classroom activity (safety glasses, gloves, aprons, hearing protection, respirators, etc.)
- Provide direct supervision
- Use electric soldering guns when possible
- Encourage and enforce clean working stations
- Discuss emergency procedures and identify location of first aid kits

If you use propane or acetylene torches and solders, follow these recommendations:

- Follow all requirements for proper storage ([Flammable Liquids](#))
- Train staff on proper ways to turn torches on and off and how to bleed lines
- Ensure the area has adequate exhaust or use torches/solders outside ([Division 2, Subdivision G, Occupational Health and Environmental Control](#); [Division 2, Subdivision Q, Welding, Cutting, and Brazing](#))
- Use only lead-free solders
- Perform hot work on flame and fire resistant surfaces
- Require training and a competency test for everyone using torches
- Provide direct supervision and only allow a few students at one time to conduct hot work
- Remove all flammables
- Make sure fire extinguishers and fire blankets are available in the room

If you have any additional questions or concerns regarding jewelry making, please contact the risk management department at 800-285-5461 or riskmanagement@sdao.com.