

Sharon Massey

Learn to fabricate mild steel using silver solder. Sharon Massey has been using steel in her work for over 15 years, and she will demonstrate how to solder steel wire and sheet with an acetylene/atmosphere torch. She will also explain a variety of ways to pickle and finish the steel for jewelry applications.

Tools & materials needed:

acetylene/atmosphere torch with a variety of tip sizes

fire proof soldering surface

wire cutters

hand files

jeweler's saw and blades

220 grit sandpaper

white paste flux (Handy flux brand is best) and a cheap paintbrush

silver solder (medium and/or easy, hard is optional)

tweezers and/or solder pick

steel:

low carbon steel wire from McMaster Carr

<https://www.mcmaster.com/wire/metal/steel/low-carbon-steel-wire-7/>

(students might want a variety of gauges, but for learning I recommend the .048" diameter or the .063" diameter)

low carbon steel sheet from Lowes

this comes in variety of sizes, get whichever size sheet you have room to cut with either a jeweler's saw or hand shears, and make sure you do not get the galvanized sheets, if you buy in the store the sticker will say: weldable steel sheet, 22 gauge

<https://www.lowes.com/pd/Hillman-6-in-x-18-in-Cold-Rolled-Steel-Solid/3050439>