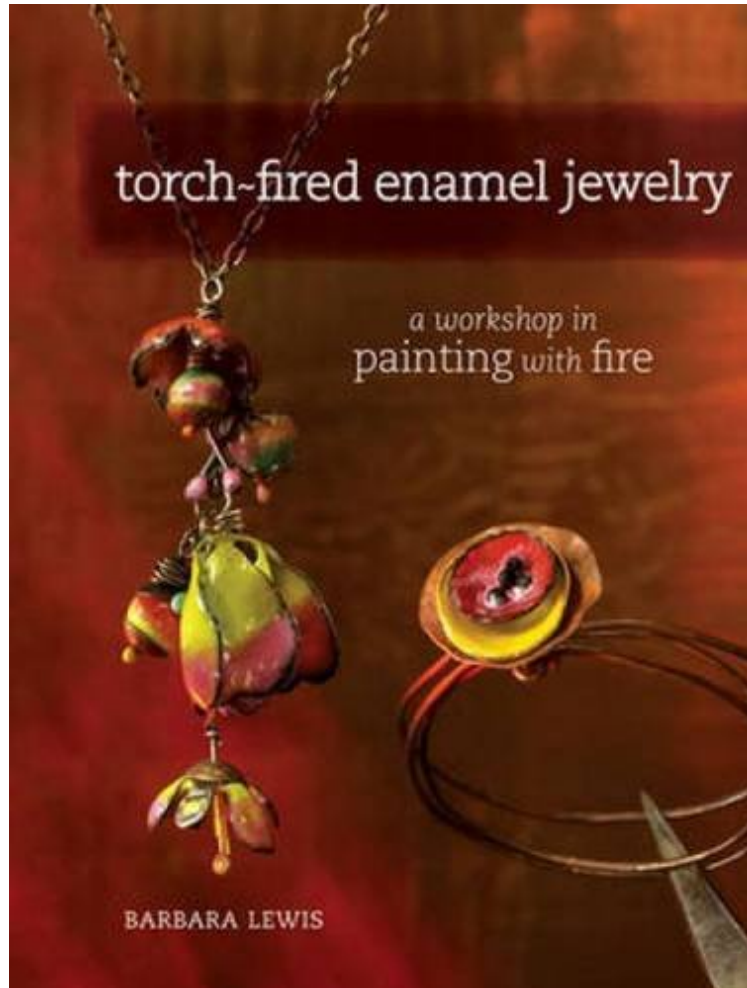


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# Torch-Fired Enamel Jewelry: A Workshop in Painting with Fire

*Barbara Lewis*

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**Barbara Lewis : Torch-Fired Enamel Jewelry: A Workshop in Painting with Fire** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Torch-Fired Enamel Jewelry: A Workshop in Painting with Fire:

78 of 79 people found the following review helpful. Get the enamels out of storage! By Jennifer I pre-ordered this book in May and it was worth the wait! The book is divided into 2 main sections. The first section is dedicated to technique and technical aspects of torch fired enamel jewelry. The second section is dedicated to projects, but also includes several additional techniques not included in the 1st section. Information included in the tech section starts with a brief history of this particular enameling technique. The first technical aspect you learn about is what types of metal are appropriate for enameling, what colors to start out with (because there are SO MANY COLOR CHOICES!), how the colors interact with each other, appropriate method for using transparent vs. opaque, using the torch flame to advantage. That is just the beginning. Barbara Lewis also covers how to set up a proper workspace and the few tools

you will need (not many at ALL!) and the most important tool, the torch. This technique does not require an expensive torch or an elaborate set-up. I will give you a little hint...the Fireworks torch can be purchased at Hobby Lobby. Use a 40% coupon and get it for a GREAT price. Included in the info about tools is a box titled Drill Bits Demystified which is incredibly helpful when trying to order bits or deciding which size you need to use for which size wire. There are two pages of how to torch fire beads with large clear photos and step by step instructions with tips sprinkled about to help you achieve success. The two pages after that include how to torch fire pendants and charms, safety, enameling tips, and a FULL page dedicated to troubleshooting. Following that is two pages dedicated to large clear photos and step by step instructions for torch firing head pins and twisty tendrils with great info and a warning to not skip a single step. Barbara covers etching copper, heat riveting, terminology, then basic jewelry making techniques before jumping into the projects. Let me just say, at this point in the book (the end of the techniques section), the book is an incredible deal. I took an enameling class with Susan Lenart Kazmer (which I LOVED and made some wonderful things) which cost me around \$300 (probably more, but I don't remember for sure) and then I couldn't easily adapt the technique at home because my torch is stationary and the technique we used there required sifting enamel and being able to move the torch around. The last thing I want to do is try to move my lampwork torch around as there is not really a safe way to do that. Anyway, even though the book is a great value with just the technique section, there is still an entire section of the book dedicated to over 20 projects! The thing is, it's not just some ideas of how to string your enameled components. There are all kinds of metal working how-to's sprinkled throughout. There are tons of LARGE, clear, beautiful photos with step-by steps. Materials lists are thorough. Plus, I just love looking at Barb's work. The book really is beautiful. If you have any interest in enameling or using enameled components, you will love this book. I am completely fired up to try this technique.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. More jewelry than enameling  
By Julie  
If you've already tried torch enameling and want to learn how to make some jewelry pieces this may be the book for you. Not much information about enamel or the differences and when to use which type of enamel. This book is strictly showing a person how to make torch enameled beads using a mandrel which is a good starting point. Seems there is more information on making jewelry than torch firing enamel...but then to be fair the name of the book is "Torch-fired enamel jewelry" not, how to torch fire enamel. You'll find some cute jewelry pieces to make and detailed wire, forming and even etching information. If you're looking for a book to teach you torch firing and working with enamels, I don't think this is the book for you.

34 of 35 people found the following review helpful. ... and it's more than just enamel tips and tricks  
By desertyoginidakini  
I rarely write reviews, but this book impressed me so much, I just had to give it a shout out. If you are debating about purchasing this book, dither no longer, buy it. Very well written, excellent step by step instructions with clear photos. Each project includes an extensive materials list, including tools needed for the project. In addition to the enameling technique instructions, this book also contains lots of tips for working with metal, from etching to forming. I'm pleased to report that I picked up a few tricks just by flipping through it on the first read. Lots of cool jewelry to look at to. Inspired me to try my hand at enameling.

Torch-Fired Enamel Jewelry combines beading and wire-working techniques with the intense beauty of torch-fired enameled beads. Metal becomes your canvas as you learn the basics of enameling with a torch, then dive into 22 exquisite pieces, ranging from quirky cattywampus earrings to ethereal pendants to delicate multi-stranded necklaces. Find out how easy it is to create unique and colorful enamel pieces in this innovative, comprehensive guide to the world of torch-fired enameling. Inside you'll find: A hands-on, in-depth approach to enameling beads, pendants and other metal findings using a torch instead of a kiln. An extensive enameling workshop, with information on equipment, materials and safety considerations. Tips and tricks for making truly unique pieces: learn how to modulate color, create burnt edges and manipulate the gas/oxygen ratio to achieve color flashes and smoky hazes. Jewelry and metal-working techniques, from wire-wrapping to etching copper sheet, that create a perfect backdrop to your stunning enamel creations. Light the torch, gather your enamels and start painting with fire in Torch-Fired Enamel Jewelry.

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