{ STONE SETTING }

This is one of my favorite ways to set gemstones. It's quick, easy and looks professional. The step-by-step below shows how to set a rectangular gemstone, however any shape gemstone can be set with the same technique. Simply use a cutter that matches the shape of the stone. Straws are great for round stones. For gemstones without a matching cutter shape, simply use a craft blade or tissue blade to cut the bezel shape close to the shape of the stone.

1 Measure each stone by laying the stone with the pointed side up on a flat surface. Then stack cards next to the stone to find out the height of the stone in card thickness.

2 In this case the stone was 7 cards thick. Add an additional two cards to make the stack 9 cards thick. Roll out the clay to the appropriate thickness.

1 Set other types of stones in this fashion. Roll out the clay to the correct thickness. Squeeze the end of a straw and use it to cut the opening.
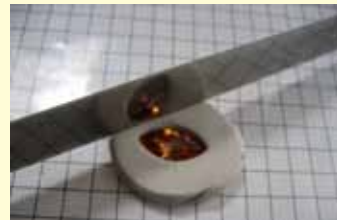

2 Insert the gemstone so that the top of the stone is level to the top of the clay.

3 Cut out the center of the clay with a rectangular cutter. The size of the cut out should be smaller than the stone. Be sure there is at least 1/8" or more of clay between the opening and the edge of the bezel.
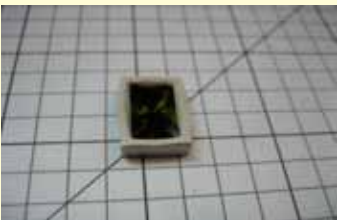

4 Push the stone into the opening. Make sure that the top of the stone is at the same level as the surface of the clay.

3 Use a tissue blade to roughly cut around the gemstone. Leave enough excess bezel to account for sanding. Set aside to dry completely.

4 Use an emery board to file the edges of the bezel.

5 Next, using a tissue blade, cut out the edges of the bezel. Set aside to dry.

5 File the edges until the bezel shape matches the shape of the stone.

Using this method a bezel can be created for any shape of gemstone.