

Copper/Bronze patina recipes

Patinas don't work so well on buffed surfaces. 800 or 1000 grit finish is the best

Recipe 1

1. Equal parts flowers of sulphur and baking soda in a steel pan (shoe polish tin works fine)
2. Mix the two with a spatula before applying the heat
3. Heat it with a torch until the sulphur ignites, the sulphur fire dies out by itself. If you still see some yellow clumps of powder, just heat it again
4. It stinks 'orrible , Do it outside
5. Once the black gunk has cooled down, add a tiny amount of water to make a paste
6. Rub it on the copper with a 3M scotch brite pad or with fine steel wool
7. It will make the copper any shade from reddish brown to dark brown to black, depending on the concentration of the solution and how many times you apply it
8. It also works on most bronze alloys as well as sterling silver

Recipe 2

1. You can also wet sawdust with scrubs ammonia (urine works too), just enough to make it damp
2. make the sawdust just damp enough so it does not fall apart if you press it into a bundle inside your hand, but not as wet as to let the solution drip out when you squeeze it in your hand
3. Place the piece to be coloured in a sealable can on bottle with the sawdust on all side.
4. If you use coarse sawdust you will get a mottled finish
5. Check the piece every twelve hours
6. This will turn copper and bronze a pretty blue green