



You **MUST** have a small, precision torch for the pinning portions of this project (this torch will work for the entire project, or you could use a butane torch or Smith Silver Smith torch for creating the setting). I highly recommend the “Smith Little Torch” propane and oxygen setup, either for B tanks or for disposable tanks (this latter option is more economical and less intimidating than having large tanks in your home or studio). Propane reaches much higher temperatures than butane and is just as non-toxic and clean-burning. This torch is able to reach intensely hot temperatures of up to 4800 degrees, whereas a typical Blazer or other culinary type model will only reach temperatures of around 2500 degrees. This drastic difference is key in creating tight pins in precision locations within your work **QUICKLY**, without shattering as many beads or melting surrounding components. In my experience, culinary style torches... even those powerful enough to fuse silver... will not be efficient for this project. This size 5 tip that typically comes with the Smith Little torch will work well for pinning, and I recommend a number 7 tip for soldering the bezel and embellishments to the back plate.



In the absence of a Smith brand torch, a generic brand will do, such as Gentec. Gentec’s model is known as “The Small Torch” and may be found on Amazon as well as several online welding suppliers. While it doesn’t get the stellar reviews that the Smith model garners, it will get the job done at a slightly more economical cost. This model usually comes with a size 4 tip, which will work for pinning. You’ll likely want a number 7 tip if completing the setting with the same torch, or as stated above, you could use a larger torch for that portion of the project.

Never buy torch kits that include the tanks... the tanks are shipped empty. Instead, purchase your tanks locally at a welding supply shop. Many shops deliver fuel if you're uncomfortable transporting it yourself, and buying directly saves money on shipping tanks you'd end up trading in for full ones anyway.