



I found a similar profile in stainless, which i did think was aluminum at first (it was strangely light). I later tried to create a similar profile, semi successful. I couldn't wait to get back to school and start prepping the material to be colored.

I began stacking them for sanding. Seeing the simple repetition of form immediately sparked my mind. I'm really seeing the power of starting with color for my process. I would have overlooked this profile if I had not been thinking about color first, and how i need to a piece that can work with color.

I have mainly been exploring bluing steel and have found it to be challenge I cant get enough of. It took me a few days and countless reddit pages on the best ways to get color from steel, but it was a piece of scrap metal that gave me my break through moment. Someone was practicing their welds and the color that was radiating up from the welds once cooled was a beautiful range of blues and purples that I have been trying to achieve. Turns out i just needed to use thicker steel. Once i incorporated 3mm and thicker steel, it was game on.

My next step was regarding prep and protecting for the steel once it was blued. Technically speaking you don't need to add protection to the steel once you blue it as it is a form of protection already. But if you want to use it for something you are gonna touch it needs a protective layer. This has been a frustrating step for me, because now that I'm getting some samples with a rich blue the extra layer really tones the color down.

The other side of the puzzle is actually prepping the metal for the heat. I visit with Designer Max Lipy (a master of steel bluing), showed me how easily you can mess this process up. Any oil left on the metal will show up as a smudge or a mark = Finger prints are your worst enemy.

This is something i struggle with. After about 15 try's trying to keep any oils off my metal I finally lost it and spray oil all over it. This last ditch effort came from the sleep deprived mind. If its all covered in oil then you shouldn't be able to see any oil marks if its just one big oil mark..... Right? Turns out it was one of the best sample I made. I got me my bluest result yet. Though I feel I am getting better at bluing steel, I still find the technique to be quite sensitive.

THIS COLOR IS FRAGILE