Art Glass Supplies
Create Inspire Fuse

Holey Mold Tutorial

Glass Separator: It is crucial to coat your mold with a good glass separator so that your glass won't stick to the mold when it is fired. If you don't apply enough glass separator your glass will get stuck or pull some of the mold out with it (including the mold post) when it is done firing. You can use Primo Primer or kiln wash on your molds, but we tend to get better results with a spray-on glass separator.

At Creative Paradise, Inc. we recommend using ZYP Boron Nitride Spray. ZYP comes in a can and can be sprayed easily. Several light coats with a short waiting period between coats are preferable to one heavy coat. You must shake the can well before use and hold it upright while using to assure proper distribution. It is also advisable to wear a mask over your mouth and nose whilst spraying. It is important to turn the mold to make sure you coat the mold cavity at all angles. Make sure to pay close attention to the mold posts. We recommend only using ZYP on the LF58 Holey Peace mold and the LF77 Holey Peace Trio.

If you have a mold that has Primo Primer in it you can change to ZYP. All you have to do is coat it with ZYP, no need for scrubbing. However, you must re-coat it with ZYP before each firing afterwards. You can't go from ZYP to Primo Primer as easily because ZYP resists water-based substances such as primer. If you wish to go from ZYP to Primo Primer you have to take the ZYP off with a sanding cloth.

Frit Weights and Firing: If you want to have a thick pendant with some weight to it, add more frit than if you wanted a thinner, lighter pendant. Our suggested firing schedule is for a full fuse, which means that your mold needs to be filled with a frit weight equivalent to two standard layers of glass- otherwise the glass will shrivel and not fill the mold cavity. **Please click here** for our current list of recommended fill weights.

Make sure you know your kiln before firing- many kilns fire differently. You may have a favorite full fuse schedule that works for you every time that you would rather use, and that's great! To test your kiln and get to know it better, we have made a PDF tutorial with Important Firing Notes- **just click here.**

Once frit has been added to your mold and you are ready to fire, it is advisable to sweep away frit from the edges into the center with a small paintbrush. This will prevent burrs from occurring on the edges of your pendant as the glass will melt and roll to create a smooth edge instead. If you do get some burrs, sanding the edges of your piece will help get rid of them. It is important to remember that the frit facing up in the kiln will be facing the viewer of the pendant.

Before brushing frit away from edges

After brushing frit away from edges

Frit Tip: We mostly use medium grain (F3) frit in our holey molds. This is because if you use mostly fine (F2) you generally get more tiny bubbles and less clarity.

Holey mold made with only Fine Lime Transparent frit, making it appear cloudy.

Holey mold made with Medium Lime Transparent frit, which appears clearer.

PS: You don't just have to stick to frit for to your holey mold! You can add stringers and pieces of glass as well. Just make sure they are small pieces, such as those cut with a mosaic nipper.

How to String a Pendant in a Pendant:

Step 1: Put both sides of the cord through a small spacer bead and run the bead down the cords to the top of the small pendant.

Step 2: Place the large pendant between both sides of the cord, on top of the spacer bead.

Step 3: Tie a knot in the cord just above the large pendant.

Step 4: If desired, hide the knot by placing a larger bead over it on the cords.

This same method works for stringing/beading just a single pendant too with some minor adjustments.

Tear Drop example from the LF138 and LF139 molds.

After reading the above instructions you are now ready to make a pendant!

Here is a Quick Guide:

Image 1

Image 2

Image 3

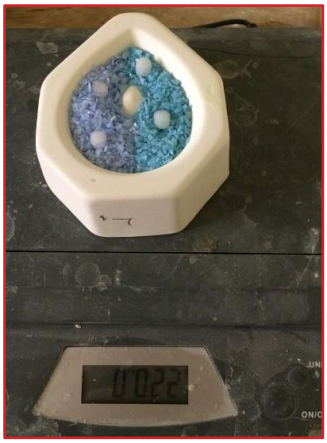
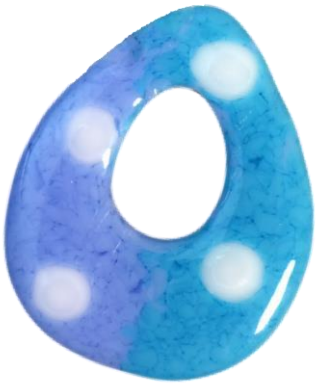


Image 4

Image 5



First, treat the mold with ZYP.

Place the mold on a weighing scale and set it at zero (Image 1). Begin filling with glass as desired until it reaches the recommended weight (Image 4). The pictured mold, LF57, has a recommended fill weight of 22 grams.

The frit used in the above example was COE96 F3 Hydrangea and F3 Green. Four small pieces of COE96 white rod were cut using a mosaic nipper and placed on the frit facing upwards to create dots (Images 2 and 3).

If you want to add dichroic pieces, make sure to place them in the mold dichroic side up.

Brush the frit away from the edges of the mold and the post(s) to prevent burrs (Image 5).

Fire using the recommended firing schedule in **Table 1** or your own favorite Full Fuse.

Table 1:

Segment	Rate	Temp	Hold
1	275	1215	45
2	275	1465	05
3	9999	950*	60

*If using COE90, adjust to 900°F