

Ochre Starfish

Creative Paradise Inc.

Materials:

- LF262 Large Starfish
- Suitable Glass Separator/ZYP
- COE96 Glass (See Below)
- Frit Placement Tools
- 16-Gauge Bare Copper or Nichrome Wire (Optional)

Featured Mold:



LF262 Starfish

Mold:

9.5" L x 9.25" W
Casting: 8" Dia.
Fill Weight: 425g

Suggested Glass:

- F1 Powder Frits:
 - Almond Opal
 - Light Purple Trans.
 - Rust Trans.
 - Orange Trans.
- F2 Fine Frits:
 - Pale Amber Tr.
 - Persimmon
- F3 Medium Frits:
 - Orange Trans.
 - Persimmon
- Optional:
 - Any Scrap Sheet Glass or Frit (for Backing)*

* See Page 2

Example 1:

Due to the highly textured nature of this mold, it is **crucial** to treat it thoroughly before beginning.
We strongly recommend spray-on ZYP for this particular mold.

Always wear a mask when applying spray-on separator or working with powder frits.

Image 1:



Once the mold has been treated well and allowed to dry, begin by adding F1 Vanilla Cream Opal to the lines running down the center of each arm and the ring around the center. *



* A Line-and-Dot Sifter is great for precisely placing powder frits like this.

Image 2:



Use the tip of a clean, dry finger to gently pat the frit down into the mold. Take particular care not to overly disturb the separator.

Image 2 Detail:



Image 3:



Sift or sprinkle F1 Light Purple into the tips of each arm and around the center. For the arms, concentrate at the tips, and gradually fade and taper off as you progress inwards.

Image 3 Arm Detail:



Image 4:



Sift or sprinkle F1 Rust in the middle of each arm and lightly around the center, overlapping the edges of the Pale Purple.

Image 5:



Sift or sprinkle F1 Orange Trans. over the remainder of the arms and body, keeping the center and very tips of the arms clear.

Image 6:



Sprinkle pieces of F3 Orange Trans. outwards along each arm. For extra depth, add F2 Pale Amber around the edge of each arm.

Image 6 Arm Detail:



Image 7:



Back everything with a layer of F3 Persimmon. Additional F2 Persimmon was used here around the edges, but using only F3 will work as well.



Image 8:



Gently press the frit up the sides of the mold before backing to avoid any of the backing glass showing around the sides.

This is quite a large mold, with a suggested fill weight of **425 grams**. Since the front of the casting is completely opaque, the back can either be filled with more F3 Persimmon or with whatever glass you may have surplus of as it won't show through. Both scraps of Clear and F2 Clear frit were used here as they were what was available in abundance.

If filling the front with transparent colors instead, we recommend using scraps of Clear sheet glass for minimal bubbles and maximum clarity.



As mentioned in the title of this tutorial, the starfish in this project was inspired by ochre starfish, which often come in shades of dark purple or orange.

There's a wide variety of starfish colors and patterns in nature, so take a look and see if any inspire you!



Image 9.1:



To allow the final piece to hang, cut a section of 16-Gauge Bare Copper Wire, bend it into a U-shape, then bend it again at both ends (**Image 9.2**). Tuck the bent ends into the frit at the point you'd like the hanger, making sure each end is fully submerged but not so deep it protrudes out the other side.

Another option for hanging is to bend the wire in the same manner but place it in the center with a piece of Fiber Paper behind the flat part of the wire as shown in the white example in **Image 9.3** to the right.

Image 9.1:



Image 9.2:

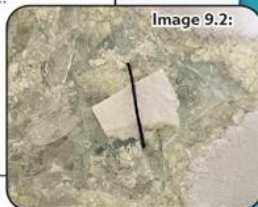


Image 10:



Transfer the filled mold to a level shelf in the kiln and fire using the suggested schedule in **Table I** or your own preferred Full Fuse.

Table I: Full Fuse *

Seg.	Rate	Temp (°F)	Hold
1	300	1150	45
2	150	1300	20
3	400	1460	10
4	9999	950**	90

**If using COE90, adjust this to 900°F

*Before firing, it's important to know your kiln to see if you need to adjust our suggested schedules for your use.

Image 11:

(Before Cleaning)



Image 12/Example 1:

(After Cleaning)



Once the glass has fired and cooled, gently invert the mold onto a soft surface to release the glass.

There will most likely be residual separator in some of the details. Scrubbing the glass with a stiff (but not wire) brush such as a nail brush or toothbrush under warm running water will help remove it.

Once clean, display as desired!

Example 2:



Example 3:



Though there is a wonderfully vast variety of natural starfish, the only real limits are your imagination! Try out some reactive colors like **Example 2**, or something softer with more pastel opaques such as **Example 3**.

For more information, tutorials, and molds, visit:

