PMC CONNECTION

MAKING A GLASS CABOCHON

1. Cut small pieces of glass in various shapes, scoring the glass with a glass cutter and breaking it apart using a pair of running pliers.
2. Pick glass patterns and colors of your choice to make a design. Stack the glass three layers high. You can hold the glass together using a small amount of white glue. Arrange the glass with the dichroic film facing up. Placing the glass with the dichroic films touching can result in “creep”. Black or opaque colors work best on the bottom of the stack with transparent layers on top.
3. Place a piece of Bullseye firing paper on top of a ceramic or fiber shelf. Place the cabs on the paper. Arrange the cabs so that they are at lease ½” apart. Do not leave more than ½” of firing paper around the edge. During firing the paper may fold over onto the glass, contaminating the glass surface.
4. If the top piece of glass is clear, it may react with the silver to create a golden halo. Silver can react with clear glass to form yellow or golden glass. Typically this does not happen at 1110^{o} F, the recommended temperature for firing PMC3 with glass. You also can avoid this by using Bullseye Crystal Clear (# 1401) clear glass. It does not react with silver.
5. Fire the cabs at slow ramp (1500^{o} F/816 C per hour increase) to a temperature of 1475 ^{o} F/802 ^{o} C for 4-5 minutes. The length of the firing depends upon the look you want for the finished cab. A fully fused, rounded cab will take longer than a tack fused cab which has a multi-level surface. Watch the glass closely to obtain the look you want.
6. Crash cool the glass from 1475 ^{o} F/802 ^{o} C to 950 ^{o} F/510 ^{o} C, then close the kiln and allow the glass to cool to room temperature. Crash cooling prevents the glass from devitrifying. A haze can appear on the surface of glass which cools too slowly between 1475 ^{o} F/802 ^{o} C and 950 ^{o} F/ 510 ^{o} C.
7. After the cab has cooled, check for any sharp or rough spots. If you find any, use a glass grinder or alundum stone to smooth the cab. Fire polish the cab by repeating the firing process.

Devos
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