



Hot Glass Mosaic Serving Tray

People have been making mosaics for centuries with cut glass tiles. The latest trend is incorporating fused and cast pieces into mosaic projects.

Start by estimating how many leaves and/or flowers you will need create your finish mosaic. In our project there were about thirty leaves and acorns. The total number in your project will depend on the designs you select and how large your tray is.

Before each firing, clean your molds with a stiff nylon brush to remove any old kiln wash. Then give each mold four to five thin, even coats of Hotline Primo Primer. It is the only primer we recommend because it doesn't obscure the mold's fine detail and is easy to remove after firing. Use a soft brush to apply the primer and a hair dryer to completely dry each coat before applying the next. The mold should be completely dry before filling.

On every Colour de Verre mold's packaging is a fill weight, the optimal weight of frit for a great casting. If you have misplaced this information, you can always find it on our website. The fill weight is listed in the detail page for each mold.

For our project, we used four different colors of Uroboros COE 96 powder frit: Light Orange, Cherry Red, Dark Green, and Yellow. All were mixed with fine Water Clear frit to lighten their color and add transparency. To create the frit mixes, we combined one tablespoon (about 25 grams) of color frit with nine tablespoons (about 225 grams) of Water Clear frit. A fine Pale Amber was used for the

acorns. This color was used right out of the bottle.

Weigh out frit for each design and fill the mold. See our "Tricks of the Trade" and "Thin Castings" Project sheets for detailed instructions.

Firing schedules can be affected by glass thickness, number of pieces in the firing, whether the kiln has top and/or side elements, and even glass color. However, here are two firing schedules – one for COE 90 and one for COE 96 – that can serve as starting points for thin, fully-fused, finely-detailed castings.

COE 96 Firing Schedule

- Seg 1 300°F/hour to 1350°F, Hold 10 minutes
- Seg 2 AFAP (As Fast As Possible) to 960°F no venting
- Seg 3 60°F/hour to 700°F
- Seg 4 Off, cool kiln, no venting

Tools

- ✓ Assortment of Colour de Verre Leaf molds
- ✓ Small, soft primer brush
- ✓ Balance or digital scale
- ✓ Kitchen spatula
- ✓ Sponge

Supplies

- ✓ Hotline Primo Primer
- ✓ Fine Water Clear frit
- ✓ Powder frit in various colors
- ✓ Ceramic tile adhesive
- ✓ Sanded tile grout
- ✓ Tile sealer

REUSABLE MOLDS FOR GLASS CASTING

COE 90 Firing Schedule

- Seg 1 300°F/hour to 1375°F, Hold 10 minutes
- Seg 2 AFAP (As Fast As Possible) to 960°F no venting
- Seg 3 60°F/hour to 700°F
- Seg 4 Off, cool kiln, no venting

Buy your wood tray from a craft or import store. Our wooden tray was purchased from an import store for about \$30. If the tray's wood has an open grain, coat the tray's bottom, inside surface with a water based sealer.



Before applying any adhesive, lay-out a pleasing design in the tray's bottom. Once the design is complete, remove each glass element one at a time, "butter" the back with adhesive, and stick it back into place.



After all the glass elements are attached, let the adhesive cure according to the product's instructions – usually 24 hours.



Mask off the wood around the glass tiles. Apply any color grout that you feel complements your design. Pack it into place using a kitchen spatula.

Let the grout partially set-up according to package instructions. Use a wet sponge to lightly wipe excess grout from the glass. Rinse sponge frequently in clean water.

Let grout dry 24 to 48 hours and apply a grout sealer.