TRAINING - TUTORIALS CONTD.

Gold and Platinum Lusters... What do you do with it?

When you want a silver or gold coloured shiny finish to fused glass

After you have fused and slumped your work, simply paint any design you want, with the lusters and fire to 620 degrees C.

NOTE: The lusters look like a yellow stain before firing. This is normal. The heat from the kiln causes the lusters to react leaving a metallic finish.

Boron Nitride... What do you do with it?

Used as a release agent for metal or ceramic moulds

This can be painted on after shaking thoroughly, but there is a better way, especially for metal moulds:

- 1. Place the contents into a plant leaf water sprayer
- 2. Heat the mould to about 70 degrees C in a conventional oven
- 3. Shake the sprayer thoroughly
- 4. Remove from oven and spray the mixture

It will dry almost instantly and leave a fine "lump free" coating over your mould.

Gelflex... What is it?

Gelflex is a hot melt PVC casting material for producing detailed moulds with undercoats, which can be re-used many times

When heated, the material liquefies and can be cast over the model. The soft version (beige) is suitable for finely detailed moulds and the harder type (blue) is better for larger moulds with less detail.

After the mould has been used it can be reheated and melted down again for use in another mould. Gelflex liquefies between 150°C and 165°C

I have melted my gelflex in a covered jug in the microwave. BE CAREFUL... THIS IS HOT

Stressometer and Polarizing Filters... What do you do with it?

See how much stress is in your fused glass

Stress is set up in glass when 2 different glasses with different coefficients of expansion (COE's) are fused together. If you are not sure whether you fused piece has stress you will need 2 polarizing filters:

- 1. Place the glass between the filters and hold up to a light
- 2. Hold the back filter still and turn the front one until most light is coming through
- 3. Turn the front filter 90 degrees (1/4 turn) and most of the filter turns black, except where the stress is. See image to right, stress around the millefiori

The stressometer is a torch with 2 polarizing filters. One attached to the torch head.

















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