

Oval Slices

By Sara Peterson

Sara Peterson worked for Spectrum Glass Company for 18 years. She designed the majority of the fused glass pieces used in the popular System 96® Project Guides and also taught at many fused glass events held at both Slumpy's and Bisque Imports.

Materials

Slumpy's Ice Oval Pre-Cut Base
Steel Blue (or light) 538-4S-F
Pale Blue 130-8S-F
Light Blue 132S-F
Sky Blue 533-1S-F
Blue Topaz 533-2S-F
Deep Aqua 533-3S-F
Sea Green 528-1S-F
Light Green 121S-F
Moss Green 526-2S-F
Med Green 123S-F
Teal Green 523-2S-F
Fine Black Frit
Hairspray

1 Gather your transparent color palette. I used the blues and greens listed in the materials, but feel free to choose your own. A nice part about this project is that even though you're using lots of different colors, you do not need very large pieces of any one color, so it's a great opportunity to use up some glass in your scrap bins.

2 Print out the pattern. Make sure it's 100%! (Lay the Oval base on top of the pattern to check.) Assign your color choices — noting them directly on the pattern can help keep you more organized as you work.

3 Lay a piece of glass onto the section of the pattern you've chosen for that color. Using a Sharpie pen, trace the pattern shape onto the glass — keeping to the INSIDE of the thicker interior pattern lines. (This insures that there will be room for the Frit between each piece.) Cut out the shape and sand or grind as necessary. Position the cut piece in its place on the oval base.

4 Move to the next section, repeating step 3 for each section of the pattern until you have all the sections cut and positioned onto the base.

5 Clean all pieces and glue in place with pinpoints of adhesive. (I use Elmer's white glue.) Let dry thoroughly. You do not want the pieces sliding around on wet adhesive when you're adding the Frit!

6 Carefully fill the gaps between sections with Fine Black Frit, sweeping it in place with a small flat brush. I add a drop of cheap liquid hair spray at the ends of each channel to help keep the Frit in place.

7 You can stop here for a nice clean look, or continue to add a 3rd layer of embellishment to make the piece more unique or whimsical. Opal glass generally works best in this third layer. You can nip various shapes from sheet glass, use Rod Dots, Frit, Noodle, Stringer, pens — anything your heart desires — to customize this layer and make it your own creation. Try multiple colors or stick with all Black to play off of the Frit. Adhere your third glass layer with an appropriate adhesive.

8 Fire using the following schedule:

Segment	Ramp (°F)	Temp (°F)	Hold (min)
1	250	1050	30
2	250	1250	20
3	300	1460	5
4	9999	950	60
5	200	800	10
6	300	100	0

9 Slump using the following schedule:

Segment	Ramp (°F)	Temp (°F)	Hold (min)
1	250	250	15
2	250	1050	30
3	150	1225	15
4	9999	950	60
5	200	800	10
6	300	100	0