

Fused-glass portraits

Use Fired-On transfers for ornaments, more

By Terrie Banhazl

Objectives

- Use special transfer paper to make a one-fire fused-glass portrait



Materials

Fired-On Images transfer paper
Any HP or Canon black-only laser printer or photocopier (not inkjet)
Light green translucent glass (make sure all glass has the same COE)
Clear glass
White opaque glass
Shelf paper
High-temp wire
Small jewelry bail
Necklace chain or ribbon

Miscellaneous

Scissors
Warm water
Paper towels
Glue

Step 1: Scan or download the holly frame or other graphic frame of choice for your ornament/suncatcher (the frames shown here can be photocopied or scanned at 100 percent). The outside edge of the frame should measure just under 3 1/2 inches square, with frame strips no more than 1/2 inch wide.

Step 2: Scan or download your choice of photo. It should measure about 2 inches square for the ornament and just under 1 inch square for the cabochon pendant.

Step 3: Print your chosen frame(s) and portraits onto the shiny side of Fired-On Images transfer paper using any HP or Canon black-only laser printer or photocopier.

Step 4: Measure and cut glass as follows:

Ornament/suncatcher: One 3 1/2 square of translucent light green, one 3 1/2 square of clear, and one 2 1/4 inch square of white opal glass.

Cabochon: One 1 inch square of white opal and one 1 1/4 inch square of translucent light green glass.

Step 5: Cut out the photo and frame close to image edges.

Step 6: Cut away the center of the frame. You don't want decal paper below the white glass

Step 7: Soak transfer paper in warm water.

Step 8: Lift images out of the water with backing paper still attached. Place the frame on the translucent green glass square; place portraits on the appropriately sized white glass squares.

Step 9: Carefully pull backing paper out from underneath each image.

Step 10: Gently push out water and bubbles from underneath the transfer with a soft paper towel.

Step 11: Cut shelf paper and place on kiln shelf

Step 12: For the ornament, cut a length of high-temp wire, bend it into a loop, and then twist the ends together.

Step 13: Stack glass as follows:

Ornament/suncatcher: Use the clear square for a base. Place the green square with frame image on the clear base, then center the white square with the portrait on top. Carefully place the ends of the wire between the clear and green squares in the center of the top edge.

Cabochon: Center the white glass with the portrait on top of green glass.

Step 14: Fire to full fuse (see chart).

Step 15: Glue bail to the back of the cabochon.

Hints

- Images can be fired on at any fused-glass firing temperature and schedule. If you're doing multiple firings on one project, such as a full fuse followed by slumping, add the image just before last firing.
- You can even add images or text to the back of a glass project as long as the decal doesn't touch the kiln or mold until slumped.
- Capping is not necessary for a permanent image, but if desired, fire the image on first at a tack or slump temperature, then cap and re-fire in separate firing.
- Images fire to sepia brown and can be colored with glass enamels in separate firings.

About the Artist: Terrie Banhazl is dedicated to teaching glass and ceramic artists how to use the patented Fired-On Images transfer paper for permanently firing images and photographs onto any clay or fused-glass surface. She has published several books on how to use the special transfer paper. She can be reached at info@fired-on.com.

Automatic Ramp/Hold Programs for Firing Glass in a Ceramic Kiln

Full Fuse

Segment	Heating rate per hour	Temperature	Hold time
1	150 °F / hour	960 °F	20 min
2	210 °F / hour	1250 °F	20 min
2 A	50° F/ hour bubble squeeze	1220° F	30 min
3	9999 °F / hour (max heat rate)	1485 °F	10 min
4	9999 °F / hour (max cool rate)	960 °F	2 hours
5	90 °F / hour	650 °F	10 min
	Natural cooling rate/ hour	250 °F safe to open kiln	

Slump Fire

Segment	Heating rate per hour	Temperature	Hold time
1	150 °F / hour	1000 °F	20 min
2	210 °F / hour	1250 °F	20 min
3	9999 °F / hour (max cool rate)	960 °F	2 hours
4	90 °F / hour	650 °F	10 min
	Natural cooling rate/ hour	250 °F safe to open kiln	

Sources

Fired-On Images: www.fired-on.com



Advanced Methods

For more advanced glass cutters, trace and cut the rounded ornament shape shown here. Cut two layers for the rounded shape (a clear base and translucent colored piece to go on top of the base). Then measure and cut a piece of white opaque glass for the inside square slightly less than 1 1/2 inch square.

