

Drop on Drapes

With the **Drop on Drape** series of molds, the right firing schedules, and fusible compatible glass, it's possible to drop a blank of glass through a mold onto another piece of glass simultaneously draping onto a separate mold to create a truly elegant and unique vessel.

General Materials:

- [GM87 Large Plate Ring](#)
- [GM90 Foot Drape](#)
- Glass Supplies:
 - 2.5 Sq. Feet of Fusible Sheet Glass for Base Layers
 - Various Amounts of Other Compatible Glass for Decorative Elements
- Suitable Glass Separator/ZYP
- Thin Fire Paper
- Glass Cutting Supplies

Fusing the Blanks:

The basic glass components of this project are a 10" diameter double layered circle for the "dish" and 6.5" diameter double layered circle for the "foot." To create sturdy vessels, a minimum of two standard layers of glass is strongly suggested.

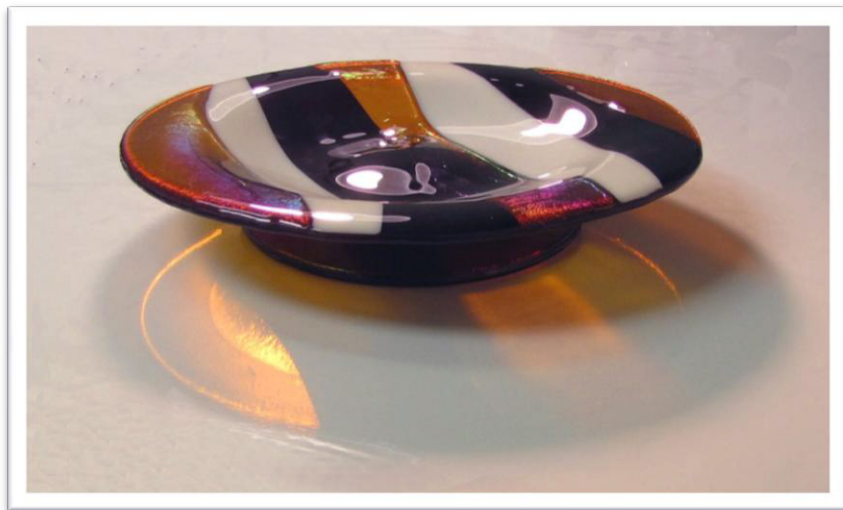


Image 1: Example dish created with Medium Amber, Black Opal, and Almond

Fused blanks for this project can be made of any combination of glass colors as long as all glass used is fusible and compatible. They can be fired to a Full Fuse or a Tack Fuse before drop/draping. However, the blank that will serve as the foot must be smooth in the center to enable smooth fusing of the foot and plate layers. Iridized and dichroic coatings on glass create slight resistance to fusing, so if using them make sure that the iridized and/or dichroic surfaces are turned away from the joining surfaces. This would mean firing with the irid/dichroic side facing upwards for the dish portion and downwards for the foot portion as glass must meet glass at the joining point.

The blanks for the footed dish featured on this page were formed using the same methods and colors as in our Striped Plate Tutorial, [which you can find by clicking here](#), with an additional circle of Black Opal placed in the center for extra decoration.



Image 2: Profile of the example dish shown in Image 1

Seg.	Rate	Temp (°F)	Hold
1	250	1100	10
2	250	1360	20
3	300	1465	10
4	9999	950**	75
5	100	825	01
6	100	500	01

**If using COE90, adjust this to 900°F

***See Page 2 for Firing Notes**

Annealing is particularly important in the drop/draping process to make sure the glass cools evenly and does not crack. A suggested schedule for the initial fusing of the 10" and 6.5" blanks can be found in **Table 1**, or you can use your own preferred Full Fuse.

Allow the project to cool off naturally. While it cools, apply suitable glass separator to the GM87 and GM90. We recommend using spray-on ZYP. **If using a spray-on separator, make sure to always wear a mask while applying.**

Dropping/Draping:

Once your molds are primed and blanks cooled, find and mark the center of the 6.5" blank with a suitable marker. Place the marked blank on the GM90 Foot Drape so that your center mark is aligned with the hole found in the center of the mold. Place the GM87 Plate Ring onto the Foot Drape so the outside edges of the ring are aligned exactly with the outside edges of the supports on the Foot Drape.



Image 3: Example dish created with Red and Amber Sheet Glass

Move the molds with the 6.5" blank onto a shelf in the kiln, then test to make sure everything is level. It is important for the glass to drop through a completely level ring onto a level foot to create a properly standing dish, so fold up small pieces of fiber paper and place them under the mold if necessary to achieve a level surface.



Image 4: Red/Amber example showing dish depth

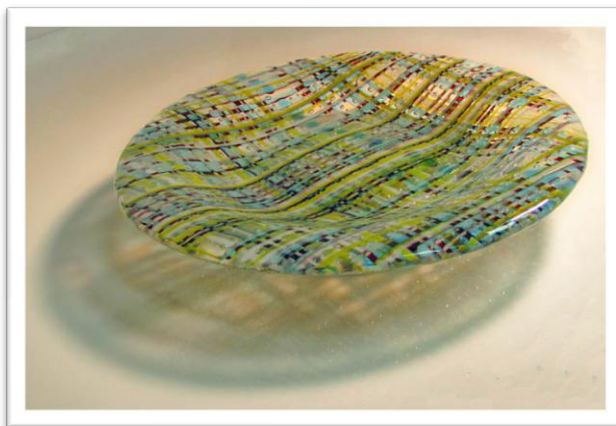
Once everything is level, center the 10" circle blank on top of the empty Plate Ring. If your glass doesn't quite meet the edge of the ring, create equal distance between the edge of the glass and edge of the ring around the entire circumference of the glass.

It is important to have at least 2" of clearance between the top blank and the lid of the kiln. Once everything is ready, fire the project using the suggested schedule in **Table 2**.

A deeper bowl, such as the one shown in **Images 3 & 4**, can be created by placing an additional 1" Kiln Post on top of each of the three supports on the Foot Drape, though take extra care to make sure the Plate Ring is completely centered when added. For a vessel of this depth, add an additional five minutes to the hold time in **Segment 2** on **Table 2**.

It is certainly possible to create even deeper vessels using taller kiln posts, though additional glass may be needed on the top blank to make sure there is enough glass present to drop that distance without creating a hole. The hold in **Segment 2** on **Table 2** will also need to be lengthened accordingly.

*Before firing, it's important to know your kiln to see if you need to adjust our suggested schedules for your use. For tips on how to do that, [please click here to see our Important Firing Notes!](#)



Footed Plate by Kymm Hughes of Topeka, Kansas, featuring reactive stringers and noodles

Table 2: Drop/Drape*

Seg.	Rate	Temp (°F)	Hold
1	250	1100	05
2	250	1260	10
3	9999*	950**	60
4	100	800	05
5	100	500	01

**If using COE90, adjust this to 900°F