

Blue Fir Christmas Tree

Always wear a mask when spraying your mold with glass separator and when working with F1 Powder Frits. Please read the helpful tips on page 3 of this tutorial before making your project.



Materials

- [LF239 Fir Tree, GM267 Drape](#)
- Suitable Glass Separator such as ZYP
- Ear Wax Vacuum (optional)
- Powder Sifters for F1 Powder Frit (optional)
- COE96 Frits either F1 Powder or F2 Fine: Medium Blue Opal, Cobalt Blue Opal or Trans, Pale Blue Trans, Light Blue Trans. F2 Fine: White Opal, Pale Blue Opal. F3 Medium Grain or Coarse: Clear.
- [LBGM267](#) Lamp Base kit (optional)
- Acrylic stains or other non-fired color product to decorate LBGM267 Lamp Base (optional)
- Fairy Lights (optional)



Steps 1-5 detail how to make the frit casting as shown above with White before Blue.



Step 1 Fill the ornaments with Cobalt Blue, Pale Blue and Light Blue, either powder or fine frit can be used. Fill the Star with Medium Blue Opal.



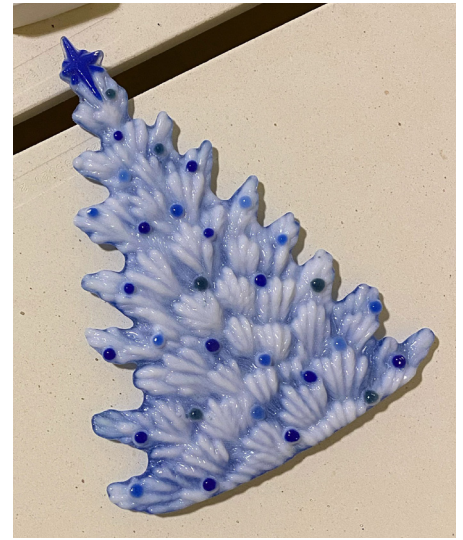
Step 2 Place a layer (approx 1/4" deep) of Fine White frit over the entire surface of the mold cavity.



Step 3 Place a layer (approx. 1/4" deep) of Fine Pale Blue over the White in the mold cavity.



Step 4 Fill the mold with medium or coarse clear frit until the mold holds 425 grams of frit. Sweep the frit back to reveal the perimeter of the casting cavity



Step 5 Place the mold into a kiln and fire to a full fuse. A suggested schedule can be found in Table 1.



Steps 6-10 detail how to make the frit casting as shown to the left with Blue before White

Step 6 Fill the ornaments with Cobalt Blue, Pale Blue and Light Blue, either powder or fine frit can be used. Fill the Star with White Opal..



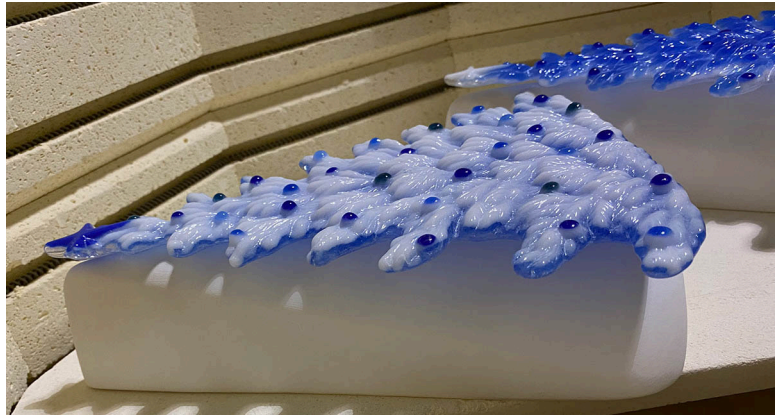
Step 7 Place a layer (approx 1/4" deep) of Pale Blue frit over the entire surface of the mold cavity.



Step 8 Place a layer (approx. 1/4" deep) of Fine White Opal over the Pale Blue in the mold cavity.



Step 9 Fill the mold with medium or coarse clear frit until the mold holds 425 grams of frit. Sweep the frit back to reveal the perimeter of the casting cavity.

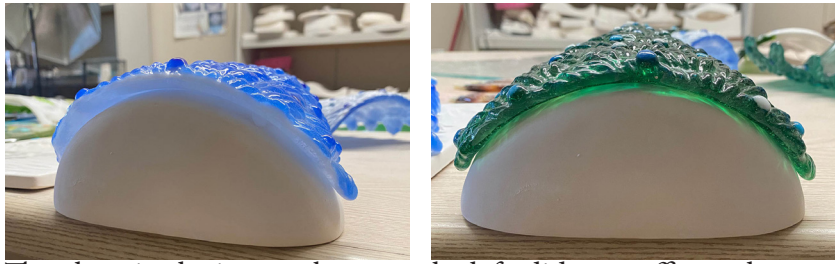


Step 10 Place the mold into a kiln and fire to a full fuse. A suggested schedule can be found in Table 1.

To drape the casted Fir Trees, wash the castings to remove any residual glass separator. Place the fused Tree onto the GM267 Cone former that has been treated with a glass separator. There is an ornament in the center of the base of the tree. Align the center ornament with the center mark on the mold with the casting about 1/8" from the bottom of the mold and the star lined up with the top point of the mold. See more information about placement of the glass on the drape on page 4.

Helpful Tips

- Weigh the mold when it is empty. This weight should be added to the desired fill weight when the mold is being filled on a scale to achieve fill weight.
- If this is your first time using your mold, give it a few good coats of ZYP/suitable glass separator. Spray the mold thoroughly in every direction. Then you only need to treat it once or twice before your next firings.
- Allow the ZYP to dry before adding frit. Always be careful not to disturb the ZYP with your fingers or a tool when you are adding frit to the mold, the Zyp can get worked up into the glass and cause sticking or too much Zyp residue in the glass.
- When your project has completed fusing and has cooled down, if the glass does not easily come out, turn the mold over on a soft surface, thump the mold on the back, and the glass should pop out safely. If your glass sticks to the mold it either means your kiln is firing too hot and the separator is failing, or you have not applied enough glass separator/missed a spot.
- Just like your oven at home before following a cooking recipe, always make sure you know your kiln before using our suggested firing schedule. For example: if your kiln fires too hot you may need to take some heat off our suggested top temp. A great way to find out about your kilns temps is to do some test tiles. Here is a flyer on this: [IMPORTANT FIRING NOTES FLYER](#)
- If you have any questions about using our molds please email us at: creativeparadiseinc@live.com



The glass, in the image above on the left, did not sufficiently drape onto the drape mold. The glass can be fired again adding 10 degrees to the top temp on the firing schedule to get the glass to bend to the shape of the mold as shown in the image above on the right.

If the glass is not slumped hard enough on to the GM267, the glass will not take the shape of the bottom edge of the GM267 mold. It may not stand on its own if the original casting doesn't completely fill the LF239 Fir Tree casting mold and/or the glass isn't draped sufficiently on the GM267 Cone Drape mold.



“Fairy Lights” can be wrapped around the trees for a very charming look.

Table 1 Full Fuse Firing Schedule			
Seg	Rate	Temp	Hold
1	300	1150	45
2	150	1370	20
3	350	1460	10
4	9999	950	60

Table 2 Drape Firing Schedule			
Segment	Rate	Temp	Hold
1	250	1270	10
2	9999	960	60



LBGM267
Lamp Base Kit
by CPI

After the casting has been draped, it should stand on a level flat surface and can be displayed alone, or you can add the casting to the LBG267 Lamp Base Kit (by CPI). The earthenware base can be decorated with acrylic stains or spray paint. After the paint is dry, insert the clip light through the bottom of the base through the hole in the top and place the bulb into the socket. If desired, use hot glue or an epoxy to adhere the snowman to the base.

