

Example 1:



*Creative Paradise Inc.*

# Drop-on-Drape Basics

## General Materials:

- Drop Ring \*
- Foot Drape
- Fusible Compatible Glass
- Suitable Glass Separator (ZYP Recommended)
- Glass Cutting Supplies
- Kiln Shelf Paper

Combining a **Drop Ring** and suitable **Foot Drape** lets one glass blank drop through the ring onto another blank draping on the foot. This process creates elegant and unique footed vessels.

### \* Terminology Note:

We use "Drop Ring" to refer to any ring-like mold with a large center gap, just as we do in [their category here on our website](#).

"Plate Rings" are named that because they can be slumped without a Foot Drape directly onto a kiln shelf to create a non-footed plate.

All examples shown in this tutorial were made by using the [GM87 Large Plate Ring](#) alongside the [GM90 Foot Drape](#)

## Choosing and Sizing the Glass:

For sturdy vessels, a **minimum of two standard layers of glass (6 mm)** is strongly recommended for all components. Projects can be made from any combination of glass colors and opacities as long as all are fusible and compatible, though keep in mind that the glass **must be smooth and uncoated in the center where the two parts will meet**.

Iridized and dichroic coatings on glass are very slightly resistant to fusing, so if using them make sure the side of the glass with the coating is facing away from where it will join. This would mean firing with the coating facing upwards for the dish portion and downwards for the foot portion, as they were in **Example 1**.

Generally the glass for the Drop Ring will be roughly the same size as the ring itself while the glass for the Foot Drape will be about the size of the raised dome (the "drape") of the mold. For the example pieces shown in this tutorial, that meant a 10" circle for the top and a 6.5" circle for the base.

Table 1: Full Fuse \*

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

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

The blanks for **Example 1** were created using the same colors and methods as in [our Striped Plate Tutorial viewable here](#). An additional circle of Black Opal was added to the very center of this dish for extra decoration.

## Fusing the Blanks:

For best results with this technique, we suggest pre-firing the double layered components before dropping and draping. This can be done with a tack fire or a full fuse, such as the suggested one in **Table 1**.

Arrange the two layers on a sheet of kiln shelf paper on a level shelf in the kiln, then fire. Annealing is particularly important in the later drop/draping firing, so make sure the hold on your annealing segment is long enough and that the resulting blanks are not cracked.

Allow the project to cool off naturally. While it cools, apply suitable glass separator to the GM87 and GM90 or other combination of plate ring and foot molds. We recommend spray-on ZYP. **If using spray-on separator, always wear a mask during application.**

Example 1 (Side):



## Dropping and Draping:

Once the molds are primed and the glass blanks are cool, find and mark the center of the smaller blank. Place the Foot Drape on a level shelf in the kiln and center the smaller circle on top, aligning the mark with the hole in the domed center of the mold (**Image 1**).

Place the Drop Ring on top of the Foot Drape so that the outside edges of the ring are flush with the outside edges of the supports on the Foot Drape.

**Make sure that the everything is completely level**, as it is crucial for the glass to drop through a level ring onto a level foot in order to create a properly standing, stable dish. You can test the setup by balancing a scrap of sheet glass on top and using a level on it (**Image 2**). If the molds aren't completely level, they can be propped up or braced with small pieces of fiber paper.

Once everything is level, center the larger blank atop the Drop Ring. It is important to have at least 2" of clearance between the top blank and the lid of your kiln. When everything is in place, fire using the suggested schedule in **Table 2**, adjusted as needed for your kiln.



Image 1: "Flame Stitch" tutorial.

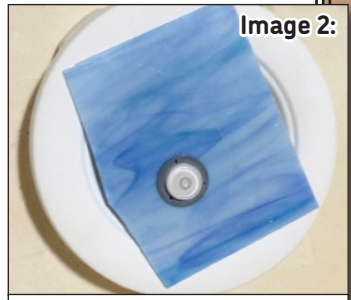


Image 2: "Poinsettia Dish" tutorial.

**Table 2: Drop and Drape \***

Seg.	Rate	Temp (°F)	Hold
1	250	1100	05
2	250	1260	10
3	9999	950**	60
4	100	825	05
5	100	500	01

\* 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!](#)

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

**Example 2:**  
(Red and Med. Amber)



**Example 2 (Side):**



## Going Deeper:

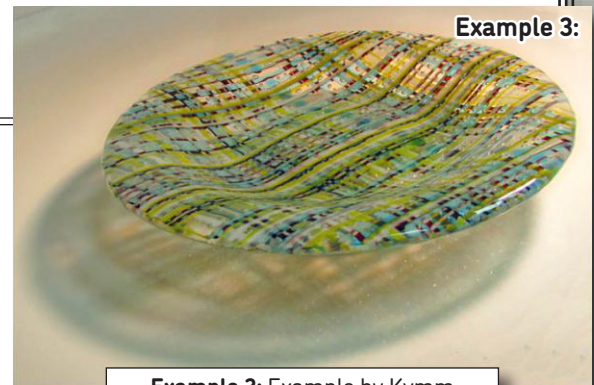
A deeper bowl such as **Example 2** can be created by placing a 1" kiln post atop each of the three supports of the Foot Drape, though take particular care to make sure the Drop Ring is completely centered on top when added. For a vessel of this depth, add an additional five minutes to the hold time of **Segment 2** in **Table 2**.

Even deeper vessels can be created with taller kiln posts, though additional glass may be needed on the top blank to ensure there is enough glass present to drop without creating a hole. The hold of **Segment 2** in **Table 2** would also need to be extended accordingly.

## Get Creative!:

Remember the only limits for your design are fusible compatibility and your imagination. Try using glass other than just pieces of sheets! Adding stringers and noodles, or playing around with reactivity, can lead to fascinating and beautiful results like **Example 3**.

Though the process can take a bit of trial and error, we've found the results to be well worth the effort.



**Example 3:** Example by Kymm Hughes of Topeka, Kansas, featuring reactive stringers and noodles

[www.creativeparadiseglass.com](http://www.creativeparadiseglass.com)

*Creative Paradise Inc.*