

Pointillism Glass Art

By Michael Harbridge



Materials List

Designer Liner by Mayco

Available at www.claypuzzling.com

715-281-6450

Glass by Spectrum System 96

www.spectrumglass.com

Contact the artist

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715-281-6450

Designer Liner Clay Stringer Techniques

Designer Liner is a decorating product originally manufactured for the ceramic pottery market, but it was quickly realized how well it worked with glass fusing methods. It's a highly pigmented clay product that does not flow in firing and allows fine line work and unique design methods. Here are some basic facts and tips about the product to keep in mind when creating your items.

- Designer liner must be capped with clear glass. If you fire this product on glass without capping, it will be rough, not food safe, and will likely fall off or chip away.
- If this product is applied thick, it will get a crackle pattern, which can be cool.
- Designer Liner stays put. What you see, is what you will get. Don't expect it to flatten or bleed out. Two colors placed next to one another will not flow together, unless you intentionally blend them while wet.
- You can manipulate the colors with a brush or tools for unique looks.
- Designer Liner will not stretch well. If used in a bowl that will drop or fired over a drape mold to extreme temperatures, the color can pull apart or separate. This can be an interesting effect.
- The colors can be layered on top of each other.
- Colors are intermixable.
- Designer Liner will work with any COE of glass.
- Use a brush or tools with colors while wet to get combed looks. Make lines or rings or colors, and pull the brush from the ends, or center, or both.
- Designer Liner requires a clean edge of glass along the outer edge where no color is applied so top layer can bond properly. Never cover glass completely with color. Always leave an 1/8 inch along outer edge so glass can fuse. Top layer of glass will pull back if it can't bond.
- Apply Mica powders to the top of wet Designer Liner and dust away unwanted powder once dry.
- Fire according to a full fuse schedule you normally use for the COE of glass you've selected.
- It's best to place small pieces of clear, compatible frit, in a few spots along the outer edge between the layers of glass. This allows gasses and air to escape, while the center of the glass drops first.

Recommended firing schedule for System 96 Glass used in class. (This is full fuse.)

Ramp 1: 300 degrees F per hour to 1150. Hold for 30 minutes.

Ramp 2: 200 degrees F per hour to 1370. Hold for 20 minutes.

Ramp 3: 400 degrees F per hour to 1450 to 1480. (Every kiln fires differently, so your final temperature may vary slightly.) Hold for 20 minutes.

Ramp 4: 9999 degrees F per hour to 950 degrees. Hold for 60 minutes.

Ramp 5: 150 degrees F per hour to 800 degrees. Hold for 10 minutes.

Ramp 6: 300 degrees F per hour to 100 degrees. No hold and allow to cool to touch before removing.

Pointillism is a method of creating your entire design with dots. Designer Liner is perfect for this because it comes in a bottle with a metal tip, perfect for making small dots. Place your clear glass over the pattern and dot in your outline. Continue to fill in the spaces with dots of colors. For more intense looks, use darker colors or heavier application of dots. For fades of colors, lesson the dots. Colors can be overlapped and dots can be created within dots.