

How To... Use Mica Powder



Follow these tips to get the most out of working with mica powder.

1. Cap with glass

Mica powders can be used in a variety of ways with Bullseye Glass. As it is a mineral it doesn't melt but just sticks to the soft glass, therefore it is best when capped with a clear piece of glass. If not capped, you will find that nearly all of the mica can be rubbed off after it's been fired.

2. Place away from the edge of your piece

Avoid placing the mica powder on the edges of the glass as you need to allow space for the glass to fuse together. The mica powder will act as a barrier. Also, placing the mica powder near the edges of the glass can cause the glass to pull inward, leaving uneven edges. It can also create a channel encouraging the mica powder to explode out of the sides.

3. Painting with mica

An alternative to using the mica as a powder is to make it into a paintable consistency by mixing the powder with a water-based adhesive such as Glastac glue. There are no exact mixing instructions for the powder, just mix to your desired consistency and fire a test piece if desired.

4. Use with Flexi-Glass

Flexi-Glass is an effective way to make mica easier and more precise to work with. This method allows you to cut out mica shapes and place them in your work before firing: Mix one level teaspoon of mica powder with two teaspoons of Flexi-Glass. Liberally brush the Mica mix onto the flexi-glass transfer sheet. Place in kiln at 93C for 30 minutes. Allow to cool. Lift off the transfer and cut into shapes or shred in strips.



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www.warm-glass.co.uk