

Glass Garden



Materials Needed

8" x 8" clear fusing glass
Assorted freeze & fuse flowers & frit flowers
Assorted green vitribulbs & green frit.
Assorted green frit

Making Freeze & Fuse Flowers

1. Start with a plastic, latex or silicon mold.
Apply a light sprinkling of white powder.



2. Sift in enough blue powder to fully fill the mold.



3. Add enough water to saturate the powder.



4. Tamp with a stick or the eraser end of a pencil to soak the water completely into the powder.



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5. Pat dry with a paper towel to remove excess surface water - but only on the surface.



6. Wipe off any excess powder on the mold surface.



7. Place the molds in freezer for at least 2 hours.



8. Take the molds from the freezer and remove the glass castings from the mold. Take special care when you do that to avoid breaking the castings. They are very fragile and break easily. Be gentle. Handle with care.



9. Load the glass castings into the kiln. It's important to minimize the time the molds are out of the freezer before firing in the kiln. If they start to thaw and they start to dry out there is a risk they will crumble either while you're loading them into the kiln or during the firing. My routine practice is to preprogram the kiln ready to fire before I start loading the castings. As soon as the shelf is filled, punch the last button on the controller to start the firing.



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10. All the castings after firing in the kiln ready to plant into a glass garden.



These castings were all done with 2 colors but you could do them all a single color or mixed with as many colors as you like.

Making Frit Fronds

Place pieces of glass stringer on the kiln shelf and spoon out rows of glass frit. In this project I used medium texture frit but you could also use fine or coarse frit. You could even also sift mica powder on top to add a special sparkle. Premixing different colors along with different grits can make especially interesting fronds. For this project I made them about 4 inches (10 cm) long and about 1 inch (2.5 cm) wide but there's no reason you couldn't make them any size you like depending on what project you want to use them in.



With a small brush push the frit into place in rows. If you leave the edges slightly irregular it will look more natural.



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Making Vitribulbs

When the first vitribulb forms let it drop.



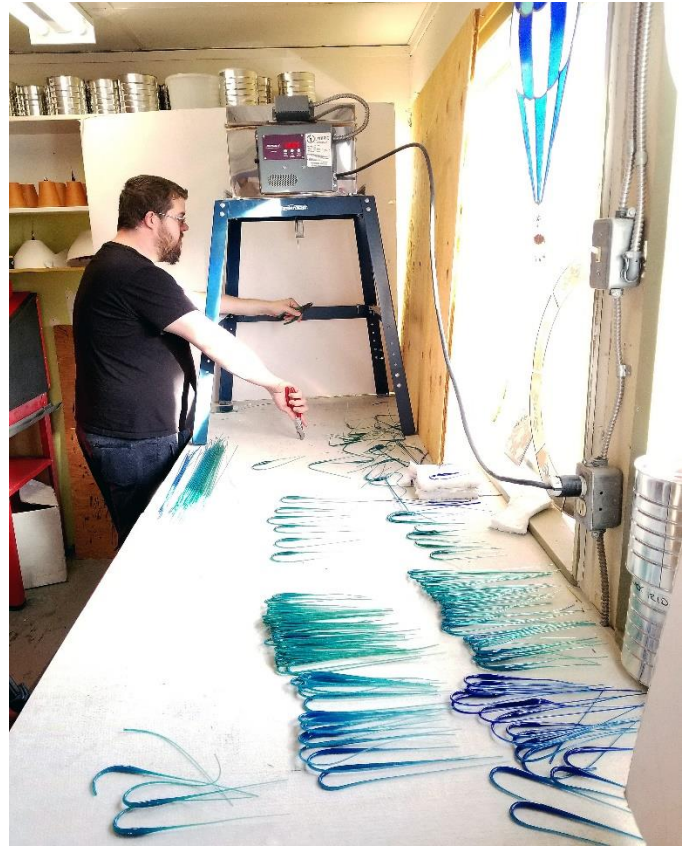
When the bulb has dropped about a foot from the kiln bend it back up to create a curve.



Cut the glass stringer left behind the bulb.



Here's a collection of vitribulbs and stringers made from melting a pot full of glass.



Building the Garden

Set out a straw base from scraps of stringers. They can be applied loose or prefused together as a unit. As an alternative, you could sprinkle out coarse or medium frit.



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Apply 3 glass fronds. I'm using 3 for this project but you can experiment with less and more for different looks.



Set out assorted green stringers and vitribulbs as grass and leaves in background for your garden.



Start adding freeze & fuse cast flowers.



Keep adding more flowers to create the look you like.



Spoon out medium green glass frit for a grass base. You can mix different greens or use just one color.



Place your garden in the kiln to fire to tack fuse.



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The Finished Garden



Some Other Glass Gardens Draped over a steel scone mold.



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Firing Schedules F

Freeze & Fuse

| SEG | RAMP °/hr | TEMP °F | HOLD minutes |
|-----|--------------|------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 200 | 400 | 30 |
| 2 | 400 | 1320 | 35 |
| 3 | 9999 | 960 | 60 |
| 4 | 200 | 700 | 0 |
| 5 | 500 | 300 | 0 |

Vitrigraph

| SEG | RAMP °/hr | TEMP °F | HOLD minutes |
|-----|--------------|------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 9999 | 1700 | 90 |

Frit Fronds

| SEG | RAMP °/hr | TEMP °F | HOLD minutes |
|-----|--------------|------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 500 | 1350 | 15 |
| 2 | 9999 | 960 | 30 |
| 3 | 500 | 300 | 0 |

Tack Fuse Garden Assembly

| SEG | RAMP °/hr | TEMP °F | HOLD minutes |
|-----|--------------|------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 200 | 1000 | 20 |
| 2 | 800 | 1350 | 15 |
| 3 | 9999 | 960 | 60 |
| 4 | 200 | 300 | 0 |

Drape Garden over sconce mold

| SEG | RAMP °/hr | TEMP °F | HOLD minutes |
|-----|--------------|------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 200 | 1000 | 20 |
| 2 | 800 | 1200 | 20 |
| 3 | 9999 | 960 | 60 |
| 4 | 200 | 300 | 0 |

All firing schedules shown are for COE 96 glass.
For COE 90 glass add 20°F to all top temperature.

Firing Schedules C

Freeze & Fuse

| SEG | RAMP °/hr | TEMP °C | HOLD minutes |
|-----|--------------|------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 95 | 205 | 30 |
| 2 | 205 | 716 | 35 |
| 3 | 9999 | 515 | 60 |
| 4 | 95 | 371 | 0 |
| 5 | 260 | 150 | 0 |

Vitrigraph

| SEG | RAMP °/hr | TEMP °C | HOLD minutes |
|-----|--------------|------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 9999 | 925 | 90 |

Frit Fronds

| SEG | RAMP °/hr | TEMP °C | HOLD minutes |
|-----|--------------|------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 260 | 718 | 15 |
| 2 | 9999 | 515 | 30 |
| 3 | 260 | 150 | 0 |

Tack Fuse Garden Assembly

| SEG | RAMP °/hr | TEMP °C | HOLD minutes |
|-----|--------------|------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 95 | 540 | 20 |
| 2 | 425 | 732 | 15 |
| 3 | 9999 | 515 | 60 |
| 4 | 95 | 150 | 0 |

Drape Garden over sconce mold

| SEG | RAMP °/hr | TEMP °C | HOLD minutes |
|-----|--------------|------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 95 | 540 | 20 |
| 2 | 425 | 650 | 20 |
| 3 | 9999 | 515 | 60 |
| 4 | 95 | 150 | 0 |

All firing schedules shown are for COE 96 glass.
For COE 90 glass add 20°F to all top temperature.