

## **Draping or slumping single layer glass.**

Draping or slumping single layer glass is a great way to make quick and easy projects and, if you want to sell your work, to generate attractive profits.

- Takes very little labour.
- You can use cheap non-compatible art glass or architectural glass
- Textured glass will retain its texture.
- Regular iridescent glass will retain its iridescence.
- Rapid firing allows 2 or 3 firings each day with each kiln.

Those are the advantages, and as with everything, they come with disadvantages:

- Firing only to fuse/drape temperature won't fire polish the glass edge.
- You must cold finish the glass edge before firing.
- Regular glass is more susceptible to devitrification.
- Single layer glass is more susceptible to distortion.

Firing schedules for single layer glass are NOT a place where you should fire slow. The slower you fire, the more likely the glass will distort. A schedule we've used for hundreds of successful single layer slumps with Spectrum glass is:

Segment 1	400 dph to 1000° F hold 20 min
Segment 2	850 dph to 1250° F hold 20 min
Segment 3	AFAP to 960° F hold 60 min
Segment 4	400 dph to 100° F OFF

The schedule for draping is:

Segment 1	400 dph to 1000° F hold 20 min
Segment 2	850 dph to 1220° F hold 5 min
Segment 3	AFAP to 960° F hold 60 min
Segment 4	400 dph to 100° F OFF

Each kiln fires differently, so you should experiment with temperature and time variations to determine what works best in your kiln. The above schedules are for Spectrum System 96 glass. Other glass requires different temperatures. For Bullseye COE 90 glass add 25° F to all temperatures. For clear float or architectural glass, add 50° F to all temperatures.

For example, where the slumping schedule calls for the glass to be slumped at 1250° F, increase that to 1275 for Bullseye and 1300 for float or architectural.

A Wet Belt Sander is the best tool for producing a good edge on the glass before firing, but a rotary grinder with an extra fine bit can also produce an acceptably smooth finish. If you use a grinder, take extra care to be sure you thoroughly wash off all glass residue. Even tiny amounts of glass dust will induce devitrification.