



# Fusing With Mica Powder

The mica powders using in women’s makeup can be fused onto glass to produce a metallic finish.

They look gorgeous and are really easy to use but there are some limitations and some concerns working with it.

## Color Survival

Not all colors survive the temperature glass is fused at. In fact, most don’t. They either significantly fade or completely lose their color. It’s important you test any mica you want to use. We test fired 115 different colors of mica to select 12 different for regular use.



## Color Change

Almost all micas change color when fired. Do not assume it will come out of the kiln the same color it went in.

## Different Glass

Mica looks different on different colors of glass. It’s the most dramatic on black or dark colored glass and relatively subdued on clear, white, or light colored glass. Because mica will not fuse to dichroic or to

iridescent glass, there are numerous fun easy ways to produce dramatic effects using either with mica.



## Different Temperatures

Color remains strongest at tack fuse temperatures. Some colors stay strong at full fuse temperatures but most fade to some degree. Because the mica color is strongest at lower temperature firings, using it on lower COE glass fired at lower temperature will ensure stronger colors.

## Firing Mica Thick

Mica will not fuse onto mica so if you apply it thick it will only fuse to where it touched the glass. Any mica piled on top of other mica will remain unfused and just brush off after firing.

## Fine Particles

Mica is extraordinarily fine and will attach to everything it touches. It will be on your skin, on your clothing and even in your hair if you don’t handle it carefully. It’s a good practice when handling mica to either work very slowly or wear a dust mask to avoid inhaling it.