



### Soap Dishes

Cast and kiln-formed elements are combined with double-thick sheet glass to produce soap dishes that are both beautiful and practical. This project can be completed in a small, table-top kiln.

*leela*

The average glass studio has an abundance of extra castings, collections of odd frit balls, and an assortment of unused wavy rods, noodles, and stringers looking for a home. This project was designed to use up some of those “leftovers.” If you are new to glasswork and don’t have that box of remnants, visit the *Learn* section of the Colour de Verre website, [colourdeverre.com](http://colourdeverre.com), and download and read “Serpentine Basics,” which describes how to create wavy rods, noodles, and stringers and includes a short tutorial for

frit balls. While there also download and read “Making Small Dragonflies.” These instructions can be followed to fill and fire almost any small, Colour de Verre embellishment molds.

Even though the following instructions are for creating one soap dish, consider making them four at a time. The extra soap dishes are very handy to have as an impromptu gift.



### The First Steps

Cut a 4x5” (10x13cm) rectangle of double-thick, clear glass. (You can substitute two sheets of single thickness glass if you prefer.) With a diamond pad or power grinder, slightly round the four corners. Place the glass on a kiln shelf pro-

tected by a piece of ThinFire™ or shelf primer that has been applied according to the manufacturer’s instructions. Fire the piece using the Sheet Glass Prefire Schedule below. If one is looking to simplify this project, this first firing can be skipped. However, this may result in less rounded edges.

### Arranging the Elements

Remember when arranging the pieces on the glass rectangle that this piece will eventually be slumped. Around the rectangle will be a 1/2” (1cm) border. This is a great location for small elements, like cast leaves or blossoms; or rods, stringers, or frit balls.



### Sheet Glass Prefire Schedule\*

Segment	Ramp	Temperature	Hold
1	350°F/195°C	1375-1400°F/745-760°C	5 minutes
2	AFAP	960°F/515°C	60 minutes

\*Schedule for COE 96. For COE 90, increase casting temperature by 25°F/15°C. AFAP means “As Fast As Possible”, no venting.

### Availability

Colour de Verre molds are available at fine glass retailers and many online merchants including our online store, [www.colourdeverre.com](http://www.colourdeverre.com).

### Tools

- ✓ Diamond pad or grinder
- ✓ Scissors
- ✓ Ruler

### Supplies

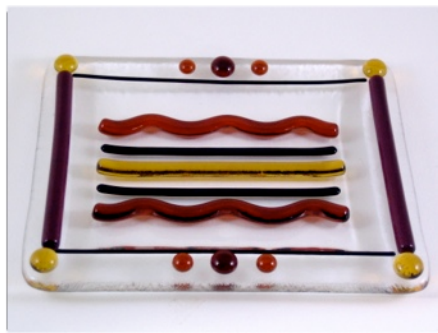
- ✓ 1/8” Fiber paper
- ✓ Double-thick, clear sheet glass
- ✓ Remnant castings and other glass elements
- ✓ White glue

The center of the piece – where the soap bar will eventually be placed – has to have some decoration, too. However this decoration has a second purpose: It elevates the soap so it may dry between uses. This is a great place to put parallel rows of rods or wavy rods. From our experience, rods 3” (8.5cm) are just about right. Flat cast elements can also be placed in this area. For example, two ginkgo leaves, a small dragonfly, some blossoms, or a small butterfly can serve the purpose of elevating the soap bar.



Lightly glue the elements in place with small dabs of white glue.

Place the glass on a kiln shelf protected by a piece of ThinFire™ or shelf primer that has been applied according to the manufacturer’s



instructions. Fire the piece according to the Tack Fuse Firing Schedule.

### Slumping the Pieces

Rather than using a commercial slumping molds, we will construct a simple slumping mold from fiber paper.

Cut four 1x6” (2.5x15.25cm) strips of 1/8” fiber paper. Cut four 1x2 3/4” (2.5x7cm) strips of 1/8” fiber paper. Protect a kiln shelf with ThinFire™ or shelf primer that has been applied according to the manufacturer’s instructions. Use two long pieces of fiber paper and two short pieces to construct an open rectangle on the kiln shelf’s surface. The interior dimension of the rectangle should be approxi-

mately 2 3/4 x 3 3/4” (7x9.5cm). Use the remaining four strips to double the form’s height.

Place the rectangle



and its now attached elements on the fiber paper rectangle. Fire according to the Slumping Schedule below.

### Tack Fuse Firing Schedule\*

Segment	Ramp	Temperature	Hold
1	350°F/195°C	1325-1350°F/720-730°C	20 minutes
2	AFAP	960°F/515°C	60 minutes

\*Schedule for COE 96. For COE 90, increase casting temperature by 25°F/15°C. AFAP means “As Fast As Possible”, no venting.

### Slumping Schedule\*

Segment	Ramp	Temperature	Hold
1	300°F/165°C	1230-1260°F/665-680°C	45 minutes
2	AFAP	960°F/515°C	60 minutes

\*Schedule for COE 96. For COE 90, increase casting temperature by 25°F/15°C. AFAP means “As Fast As Possible”, no venting.