



Oval Dragonfly Lamp

The result is both beautiful and useful: An accent lamp that fits perfectly in your – or a friend's – bedroom, living room, or den. Use this project sheet as a starting point for creating your own designs with your favorite Colour de Verre castings.



Here's the plan:

1. Create the dragonflies.
2. Tack fuse elements to the sheet glass panels.
3. Slump – really drape – the panels.
4. Assemble the lamp.

Start by cleaning the dragonfly mold or molds with a stiff nylon brush and remove any old kiln wash. Then give each mold four to five thin, even coats of Hotline Primo Primer. It is the only primer we recommend because it doesn't obscure the mold's fine detail and is easy to remove after firing. Use a soft brush to apply the primer and a hair dryer to completely dry each coat before applying the next. The mold should be completely dry before filling.

To keep the dragonflies delicate, use only 20 grams of frit for the large dragonfly and 15 grams of frit for the small dragonfly. Additionally, the molds will be fired cooler than usual. Weigh the mold and note its weight. The filled mold will weigh 35 grams more.

Highlight the dragonflies' wing and body details by sprinkling just enough fine Black frit into each cavity to fill the wing veining and the head and body. Gently tap the mold to cause the frit to settle into place. Sprinkle a dark, fine frit (Pale Purple, Dark Blue, or Dark Green) into the head and down the body's length. "Feather" a little of the dark, fine frit out the dragonfly's wings. Place the mold on the scale and fill the wings with a

light, fine frit (Clear, Neon Orchid, Urobium Pink, or Ming Green) until the scale reads 35 grams more than the mold's empty weight. The mold's cavities will only be about one-half full.

Gently tap the mold to level the surface. Place the mold or molds in the kiln and fire according to the following schedule:

COE 96* Casting Schedule

- Seg 1 300°F/hour to 1325°F (720°C), Hold 10 minutes
 - Seg 2 AFAP to 960°F (515°C) no venting
 - Seg 3 60°F (35°C)/hour to 700°F (370°C)
 - Seg 4 Off, cool kiln, don't vent
- * Increase 25°F (15°C) for COE 90



Availability

Colour de Verre molds are available at fine glass retailers and many online merchants including our online store, www.colourdeverre.com.

Tools

- ✓ 10" Oval Panel Former
- ✓ Small Dragonflies w/ Wing Slumper mold
- ✓ Priming brush
- ✓ Digital scale

Supplies

- ✓ Hotline Primo Primer
- ✓ Fine frits (see text for suggestions)
- ✓ 8 Black noodles
- ✓ 10" Oval Lighting Hardware
- ✓ Clear sheet glass
- ✓ Medium Dark Blue frit

Cut two pieces of single-thickness glass to 10" by 10" (25.4 cm by 25.4 cm). Place the two panels on a primed kiln shelf or a piece of kiln paper on a kiln shelf

Removed the cooled panels from the kiln and make sure the frit, noodles, and dragonflies are securely bonded to the clear glass.

One thing that can't be stressed enough: Don't rush the slump firing. Between the frit, noodles, and dragonflies there is quite a variation in the panels' thicknesses. They require a slow ramp and cool down to avoid thermal shock.

The panels are next slumped over the 10" Oval Panel Former. Follow the instructions that came with the former. If you lost the instructions you can find a copy at our website, www.colourdeverre.com.



Frame the two panels with eight Black noodles. (We find the easiest way to cut the noodles is with a mosaic tile cutter.) Glue the noodles into place with a few drops of Aleene's Tacky Glue. On one of the panels arrange and lightly glue the cast dragonflies in place. Once the glue dries, sprinkle a layer of medium Dark Blue frit on both panels making sure that the clear glass is completely covered and no stray frit is on the noodles or dragonflies. Fire the panels using this schedule:



Instructions to mount the panels onto the 10" Oval Lighting Hardware can be found in the hardware's box. Choose a lamp wattage that complements the final piece.

COE 96* Tack Schedule

- Seg 1 200°F/hour to 1150°F (620°C), Hold 30 minutes
- Seg 2 AFAP to 1260°F (680°C), Hold 10 Minutes
- Seg 3 AFAP to 960°F (515°C), Hold 90 Minutes, No Venting
- Seg 4 40°F (22°C)/hour to 700°F (370°C)
- Seg 5 60°F (35°C)/hour to 400°F (200°C), Off, No Venting

* Increase 25°F (15°C) for COE 90