

Poinsettia and Holly Plate



Unique Fired Glass Colors

GC1961A Dark Green
GC1995A Apple Green
GC1997A Leaf Green
CG971D Dark Red
GC972D Lite Red
GC973D Orange
GC975D Brite Yellow
Outline Black in Decorator bottle with metal decorating tip
Glass Medium

Other Materials Required

*10/0 liner brush

White paper larger than pattern

*“FREE”

11” plate drape form

*11” circle of double strength float glass

Wooden toothpicks

Cotton swabs

*Empty 1 ounce jars for mixing and storing color

Starred items available from UGC – www.uniqueglasscolors.com

This design works up quickly so why not make a whole set for the holidays for your own entertaining or for gifts? The use of float glass makes the cost of the plates very reasonable. I must confess, to save time, I have my local window glass company cut my circles and grind the edges for me, but you can cut your own circles with our circle cutter. Try firing the design flat instead of on the drape form and use as charger plates or place in a stand, add a couple of rows of stained glass arcs or bevels around the edges and add a frame for a stunning holiday piece that would hang.

Hints for working with Unique’s Fired Glass Colors:

- Think of solder joints as you are outlining. Give a bit of a squeeze when beginning a line and when connecting to an existing line. If you need to make a correction, wait until the line is completely dry and shave off excess with a toothpick. Since we are using a drape form be sure to sign your name backwards! I sign my name on tracing paper, then turn it over and place it under the glass.
- All the colors except the Outline Black need to be mixed with medium before using on this project. Mix on a 1:1 ratio with the Glass Medium and then add a drop or two of water to thin just slightly. Store mixed color in empty 1 ounce jars for future use.
- Work over a piece of white paper while applying colors and tilt the piece of glass slightly. The white paper allows you to see up to the outline clearly. The tilting does two things, allows you to really see the edge of the outline when you pull color to the black outline and keeps you from applying too much color as you can see the color sag if applied too heavily. If you see it begin to sag, touch wet color with a cotton swab to remove excess.
- Do not *paint* the product on the glass. If you do, the color will be streaky. The liner brush is simply an application tool in this technique. Use it to drop a small puddle of color onto the surface, push or pull the color into place, then use the tip to blend the colors by pulling the tip back and forth between the colors in the growth pattern of all the leaves. The colors have a long open time giving you sufficient time to blend but it is best to complete on section at a time. When the colors begin to dry they get grainy and you cannot blend.

Outlining the Design

Place glass circle over design. Fill Decorator Bottle with Outline Black. Attach metal tip to bottle. *Hint: while working place a small piece of wet paper towel into the cap and place over the metal tip when not in use to keep Outline Black from drying in the tip.*

Begin black outlining in center and work your way out to the outer edges.

Add Color – color placement is on the pattern

Holly Leaves

Use brush to “pick up” blob of glass color. Drop Dark Green onto the glass in a “puddle.” Remember to keep your glass slightly tilted. “Push” and “pull” color up to the black outline with just the tip of the brush.

Dark Green is applied in about one third of leaf outline placed at bottom of section. Remember to work only one section at a time. Drop a puddle of Leaf Green close to the wet Dark Green, again, about one third of the section. Push and pull

color to meet black outline and to touch the Dark Green. Drag the tip of the brush back and forth between the two colors to blend and create veining in leaf section. Drop Apple Green in the remaining third and blend. Repeat for all leaf sections. Fill in the vine with Dark Green.

Poinsettia Leaves

On the green poinsettia leaves marked DG fill in leaf section with Dark Green and blend Leaf Green at the tips. There are four of these leaves. For the red leaves begin on the leaves that are underneath the smaller leaves of the second layer. Again, one section at a time. Fill bottom third of leaf with Deep Red, the next third with Lite red and blend, the last third with Orange and blend. Repeat for all large bottom leaves.

For the smaller leaves in the second row, mix a lighter value of orange for the tips. Mix two parts of Brite Yellow to one part of Orange. Place Lite Red on the bottom half of the leaf section, Orange on the next quarter, the orange mix on the final quarter and then blend. Repeat for the other four small leaves.

Center

Place a dot of Orange on one of the top three circles in the center. Immediately fill in the rest of the circle with Brite Yellow, allowing the colors to blend slightly on their own. Repeat for the other two top circles then fill in the rest of the center circles with just Brite Yellow.

Holly Berries

Place a dot of Orange on each of the berries that face the upper right of the design. Let dry. Fill in the all the holly berries with Deep Red.

Rim of Plate

Starting on one corner, fill in every other section of the outer rim in Dark Green. If the color tries to bead up on the rim (usually from oils on your skin from handling the plate by the edges) rub over the area with a wooden toothpick and reapply the color. Fill in the rest of the outer rim sections with Dark Green. I find it a bit easier to do it this way than to do every section in order as it gives the color some time to dry and then it does not tend to run together over the Outline Black design lines.

An alternative technique for finishing the rim would be to use Unique's Fired Gold. That would be stunning!

Prepare the Drape Form for Firing

Dust over the surface of the plate drape form with "FREE" that has been placed in an old sock. FREE allows the glass to move freely on the form.

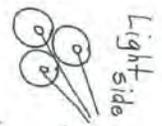
Place glass, *color side up*, over the prepared form in the kiln. Use your fingers to press against both the glass and the sides of the form to center the glass.

These firing hints are just that – Hints! You have to test fire your own kiln to know exactly how it will fire.

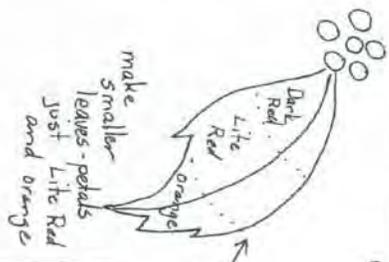
I used my ceramic kiln and placed the glass on the middle shelf of the kiln. Place the glass and form in the center of the shelf. Leave all the side peephole plugs in. For this piece I vent my lid just a bit for the entire firing, closing it only after the kiln has shut off. Fire to 1480-1500 degrees F. On automatic/progression kilns, set the heat rise to 450 degrees. Do not open the kiln until it is cold.

This plate is food safe since a drape form was used, making the fired colors end up on the bottom surface of the plate.

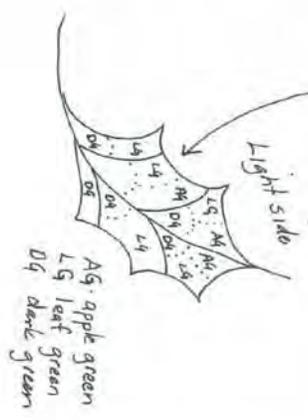
Poinsettia and Holly



Light Side
Leave open then drop in Orange do not blend



Lay in colors - than blend



AG: apple green
LG: leaf green
DG: dark green

DG on petals indicate those petals are green - not red



Mary Beth © 97