VITRUM eNOTE Nested Drops

This dramatic 3-piece set was created by cutting three 3mm Bullseye glass disks, each one a slightly different diameter and color. Each disk is topped with a disk of 3mm Opaline of the same size and all three sets are fired to a full fuse.

What Makes this eNOTE Unique

This eNOTE provides a brief glimpse into Color Theory, using a monochromatic color theme, and a brief introduction to the techniques of glass slumping and the drop process.

Bullseye Opaline glass is used to enhance the palette of dark, medium and light coral oranges. When Opaline is fired on top of a transparent color, it creates a hazy and subtle color shift in the base color. This effect is most obvious when the piece is viewed from the top side in reflected light (normal room lighting.)

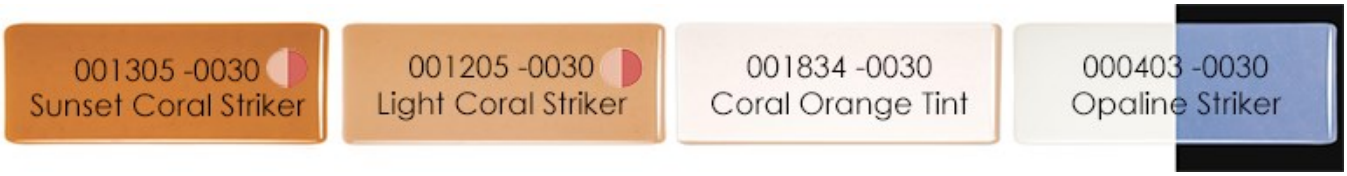
For this set, simple drop ring molds are suspended at three different heights above a prepared (Thinfire covered or kilnwashed) kiln shelf, and fired so that the glass slumps or drops through the center hole. This firing results in three different depths for the graduated set of plates. The plates can display beautifully together or be used individually.

Glass & Materials

- Bullseye Sunset Coral (**001305-0030**) disk 7" in diameter
- Bullseye Light Coral Orange (**001205-0030**) disk 9" in diameter
- Bullseye Coral Orange Tint (**001834-0030**) disk 10.5" in diameter
- 3 disks of Bullseye Opaline (**000403-0030**) - one each in 7", 9" and 10.5" diameters

Tools & Supplies

- Basic glass cutting tools
- Circle cutter
- 120 grit diamond pad, if needed to smooth the edges of the disks before slumping. Make certain that the disks are as smooth as possible **BEFORE** firing. The firing will beautifully round up the rims for a professional finish and look.



Molds & Kiln Furniture

- Bullseye slumping molds **8633**, **8632** and **8631**
- Three 1" kiln post
- Three 1/2" kiln post (or three 1/2" stacks of 1/8" fiber paper.)
- 12" kiln shelf (the size required for the 10.5" circle)

Cutting the Glass

Cut two **7" disks**—one of **Sunset Coral Striker** and one of **Opaline**

Cut two **9" disks**—one of **Light Coral Striker a**nd one of **Opaline**

Cut two **10.5" disks**—one of **Coral Orange Tint** and one of **Opaline**

Thoroughly clean each disk to remove any oils or fingerprints, then top each coral piece with a disk of Opaline of the same size. Take care that each pair of disks is lined up so that the rims will be smooth and even when fired (fused) together.

Fire all three disks to a full fuse (1480°F/805°C in our kilns) using this general firing schedule:

Suggested Full Fuse Firing

	DPH	TEMP	HOLD
1	**300°F (167°C)**	**1225°F (663°C)**	:45
2	**600°F (344°C)**	**1480°F (805°C)**	:10
3	AFAP	**900°F (483°C)**	2:00
4	**100°F (56°C)**	**800°F (427°C)**	:00
5	**180°F (100°C)**	**700°F (372°C**	:00

After the fuse firing, carefully clean each disk then:

Place the 7"disk on mold **8633**, supported by the **1" kiln posts on a kilnwashed shelf**

Place the 9"disk on mold **8632**, supported by the **1/2" kiln posts on a kilnwashed shelf**

Place the 10.5" on mold **8631**, placed **directly on a kilnwashed shelf**.

Note: *Remember to place the supports for the molds along the outer ring of the mold. You need to keep the inner ring clear so that the glass can freely drop through it.*

By raising the molds only slightly above the kiln shelf, the glass will "drop through" only a little bit, resulting in:

A plate (Mold **8631** placed directly on the kiln shelf)

A shallow bowl (Mold **8632** supported by the 1/2" kiln posts)

A deeper bowl (Mold **8633** supported by the 1" kiln posts.)

Creating the Desired Depths

By suspending the molds on different height kiln posts, you are restricting the depth of the drop that each piece can reach. The mold for the larger plate rests directly on the kiln shelf, so the glass can drop only deep enough to make a slightly recessed 1/4-inch drop, resulting in an elegant plate shape. The centers of the other two plates are allowed to drop to two different depths, one deeper than the other.

You will need to visually confirm the slumpings during the firings in order to stop the dropping at the correct time. Try to position the suspended mold so that you can observe the process through the kiln peephole when each piece is actually slumping/dropping.

Firing Considerations

As a general rule:

- Smaller openings on a drop form require higher temperatures and longer holds to achieve a slump
- Larger mold openings require lower temperatures and shorter holds to achieve a slump.

For the smallest, deepest bowl, made with **001305-0030** as a base:

Suggested Slump Firing:
7" Bowl- Mold 8633 1" posts

	DPH*	TEMP °F(°C)	HOLD
1	250°F (139°C)	1300°F (705°C)	2:00**
2	AFAP	900°F (483°C)	2:00
3	100°F (56°C)	800°F (427°C)	:00
4	180°F (100°C)	700°F (372°C)	:00

For the middle bowl, made with **001205-0030** as a base:

Suggested Slump Firing:
9" Bowl- Mold 8632 .5" posts

	DPH*	TEMP °F(°C)	HOLD
1	250°F (139°C)	1275°F (691°C)	1:00**
2	AFAP	900°F (483°C)	2:00
3	100°F (56°C)	800°F (427°C)	:00
4	180°F (100°C)	700°F (372°C)	:00

For the shallow plate, made with **001834-0030** as a base:

Suggested Slump Firing:
10.5" Bowl- Mold 8631 Mold flat on kiln shelf

	DPH*	TEMP °F(°C)	HOLD
1	250°F (139°C)	1275°F (691°C)	:30**
2	AFAP	900°F (483°C)	2:00
3	100°F (56°C)	800°F (427°C)	:00
4	180°F (100°C)	700°F (372°C)	:00

**By watching the dropping process carefully, you can stop the kiln when the glass drops down and hits the top of the kiln shelf. This forms a nice flat bottom on your piece. If the glass doesn't hit the correct depth during the 2-hour process temperature hold at 1300°F, add more time.