Create Your Christmas Village

Mold Preparation:
Prepare your Delphi Studio™ casting mold with a casting primer, such as Boron Nitride spray.

Note: Some molds have pre-drilled holes which can be used to add additional reinforcement during assembly. To add reinforcement, cut small strips of Thinfire shelf paper, roll it tightly until about 3 to 4 layers thick. From the outside of the mold, insert your rolled paper into the pre-drilled holes approximately 1/4". After firing, clean the holes to remove shelf paper residue and glue cut sections of wire (approximately 1/2" long) in place, aligning the holes in the building with the holes in the base.

Add Glass:
Plan your building - what details do you want to accent, what colors, and do you want it to be opaque, translucent or transparent? If your building is going to be back-lit, do not use too much opaque glass in any of the layers. Use clear or a light translucent glass frit for a majority of the “back” of the piece to allow light to pass through.

Build in layers. The first color and design elements placed into the mold will be the facade of your cast building. Fill the deepest sections of the mold first such as awnings and steps. Place stringers, small cut glass pieces or frit details in windows, doors, and other detail areas.
Other Ideas:
Use actual cut pieces of glass for some visual differences. Small squares can make a roof look tiled or shingled. 1/8" strips can make an awning look like traditional fabric. Cut strips can be nice to define doors, windows and roof lines. Strips can also suggest different exteriors. Even though they have the brick pattern in the mold, strips can suggest wood siding. Large chunks of specific colors can suggest stone, stucco or cement.

Avoid filling the mold deeper than the stacked cut glass windows with colored frit or glass. If more mass is needed, fill in with clear so you don’t run the risk of your clear windows being covered with a color or opaque glass. Using clear is also more economical than filling the entire thickness with expensive frit colors. You can even use some scrap clear that is left over from other projects. Chunk it up or cut small squares.

Preparing to Fire:
Pile the glass/frit in the center higher than the edge of the mold to help fill the space as the frit melts down. Use a paint brush, plastic spoon or wooden craft stick to gently pull the frit slightly away from the edge to help keep the fused edge smoother. Be careful not to brush or pull in the boron nitride spray into the glass.
Firing Schedule

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Note:
Your kiln size, controller type, and individual project may require some alteration to this schedule for best results.

Delphi Tip: Keep a firing log to make it easy to replicate your favorite projects.

Delphi Studio™ Christmas Village Molds:
- Church, #24952
- Village House, #24954
- Town Store, #24955
- Fire Station, #24956
- Base, #24953
- Victorian House, #24957
- Town Sign, #24958

Post Fire Decorations:
Using Creative Images™ Color Slide is an easy way to add names, numbers and personalization to your buildings.
Stacked Glass Trees

Making holiday trees are easy and fun, and can be completed in about an hour. There is no fusing, no grinding and no foiling. Just cut squares of glass, run an abrasive stone along the sides to remove any burrs and glue!

MATERIALS:

- Assorted Stained Glass
- Adhesive such as Weldbond or E6000
- Wasser Stars
- Glass Cutter and Running Pliers
- Abrasive Stone

PREP INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Cut strips of glass - starting with 3" strips, then into squares. You will need 4 of each size decreasing each square by ¼". For example: Cut (4) 3" squares, (4) 2 ¼" squares, (4) 2 ½" squares, and (4) ½" squares.
2. Cut a 4" base piece to glue and stack the glass on. Then cut 4 to 5 pieces of glass for the trunk, approximately 1" squares. Run the abrasive stone over all sides of glass to remove any burrs.

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Using Weldbond adhesive, put a dab in the middle of the base. Place the first trunk piece down, stagger the second piece and stack, continuing until all trunk pieces are in place.

TIP: We found that using a thinner adhesive such as Weldbond prevented the glass from sliding while stacking.
Assembly instructions continued:

2. After the trunk is completed start stacking the tree. Place the larger pieces first. Stagger the glass and keep working up the tree. *NOTE: Keep an eye of the tree as the glass pieces may slide and become lop-sided. Look straight down onto the tree to see if it has stayed centered. Using both hands, gently press down and center. Stand back and look at it occasionally to see if it is still straight.*

3. If gluing stars on the tree, use E6000 or silicone, dab a bead of adhesive across the top piece of glass and attach a small clear glass piece and lean and press the star against it so the star’s 2 legs are touching the base of the glass. The clear glass is to help support the star. Allow the adhesive on the tree to set overnight and enjoy!

TIP: Be creative! Design the tree in your favorite team colors or in colors that match décor. Embellishments such as frit or millifiori can also be added to add some flair.