VITRUM eNOTE

Gold Drops

This deep little bowl covered in torn gold foil will add an elegant note to any setting. At Vitrum Studio we made three so that we can use several at once.

What Makes this eNOTE Unique

This elegant **Gold Drop** was created by fusing together two disks of Bullseye Crystal Clear, with a 4" x 4" square of **Japanese Gold Foil** fused on top.

When the gold foil is carefully applied to the top of the two disks and fired to a full fuse, the foil will adhere permanently to the glass. As the fused disk is slumped and allowed to drop through the mold to the kiln shelf, the foil will break up because it can't stretch and slump as the glass does. This tearing results in a torn foil pattern that is unique to each Gold Drop bowl.

Glass & Materials

- Two 7" disks of Bullseye Crystal Clear **001401-0030** for each drop
- One 4"x 4" sheet of **Japanese Gold Foil*** per drop
- Lightweight oil such as olive oil or vegetable oil
- Q-tips or similar cotton-tipped applicator

Tools & Supplies

- Basic glass cutting tools
- Circle cutter
- 120 grit diamond pad, if needed, to smooth the edges of the disks before slumping.

Molds & Kiln Furniture

- Bullseye slumping mold **8633**
- Three 1" kiln posts
- Kiln shelf 8" x 8" or larger

Directions

To apply the gold foil to the top disk, begin by brushing a thin layer of oil onto the glass with a Q-Tip. VERY carefully slide the foil onto the oil-covered surface. The oil allows you to CAREFULLY reposition the foil if needed. Simply use clean dry fingers to gently slide the foil in the direction needed. Don't worry if the foil tears a little—it will tear more during the drop.

*Gold Foil is available at the Bullseye Glass online store.

Once you are satisfied with the placement of the foil, gently tap it down to compress the foil to the glass and remove any wrinkles. **NOTE:** The gold foil will burn away in any area that isn't in contact with the glass during the firing process.

Fire the gold-covered disk to 1480°F, (with the clear disk as bottom disk, covered with the second disk, gold foil side up) to 1480°F, 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

NOTE: *As always, the firing schedules we provide are the ones that we use in our kilns. You may need to adjust the temperatures or times to work best in your kiln with your kiln and/or glass choices.*

After the fuse firing, carefully clean the disk and inspect it for any roughness around the edges. Smooth the edges carefully with a diamond pad before the drop firing if needed.

Using the Drop Mold

Put three 1" high kiln posts on a kilwashed kiln shelf and place kilnwashed mold **8633** on top of them. Check the position of the posts—they should only be supporting the outer rim of the mold, leaving the center ring free for the glass to drop through.

Now center the **Gold Drop** disk on the mold, gold foil side up, and fire it according to this general firing schedule. (We chose to place the gold-covered side of the disk face up so that the gold would be on the interior surface of the finished bowl.)

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

	DPH*	TEMP	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 (472°C)**	:00
4	**180°F (100°C)**	**700°F(372°C)**	:00

Observe the Drop Process

You will need to visually confirm the slumping during the firing. Try to position the suspended mold so that you can observe it through the kiln peephole when it is slumping. You will need to actually see the piece while it is dropping through the mold so that you can stop the drop at the right time.

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 **Gold Drop. If the glass doesn't hit the correct depth during the 2-hour hold at 1300°F, add more time.

After firing, the rim of the piece can be left as it is, or cut off to create a round rim on the **Gold Drop**. Use a Diamond Hand Pad if needed to smooth the edge and remove any roughness.