

Begin by preparing the molds thoroughly with suitable glass separator. We recommend spray-on ZYP. If using a spray-on separator, make sure to wear a mask during application.

## Setting Up the Drop:

Once the separator has dried, place a square of Kiln Shelf Paper into the bottom of the GMI80 Dam mold. Then cut and place a 3.75" square of Standard Thickness Clear on top of the Paper. Take care not to remove or disturb any separator on the mold walls as you do. You may need to nip the corners of the glass slightly.

Use other compatible glass to create two layers on top of the Clear for the equivalent of three total standard layers of glass in the mold (about 9mm thick). You can use rods nipped to 3.75" and place them horizontally on the first layer and vertically on the second to create trapped air bubbles where the rods intersect upon fusing (Image I). Or you can fill these two layers with any assortment of compatible scrap glass, including other colors and treatments of sheet glass, stringers, or frit (Image 2). Once the mold is filled, fire using the suggested schedule in Table I or your own preferred Full Fuse.

After the glass has cooled, wash it to remove any residual separator or paper. Select a Casting Rock or other glass foot large enough to provide a substantial base for the votive holder but no larger than the 2.5" opening of the GMI98 Drop Tile. If using a Casting Rock, you may need to use a hammer on a hard surface to chip off some pieces.

Place the Casting Rock (or other glass foot) on a suitably sized sheet of Kiln Shelf Paper on a level shelf in the kiln. Place the three 2.5" Kiln Posts around but not touching the Casting Rock (Image 3). If possible, place the Casting Rock and Kiln Posts in such a way where the side of the Rock can be seen through a peephole in the kiln. Center the GMI98 Drop Tile on the Kiln Posts and look to make sure the Casting Rock is centered directly beneath the hole in the center of the Drop Tile (Image 4).

Table 1: Full Fuse*				
Seg.	Rate	Temp (°F)	Hold	
1	275	1215	30	
2	50	1250	30	
3	275	1470	10	
4	9999	950**	90	
5	100	500	00	

\*\*If using COE90, adjust this to 900°F

\*Before firing, it's important to know your kiln to see if you need to adjust our suggested schedules for your use. For tips on how to do that, please click here to see our Important Firing Notes!

Treative Paradise Inc.









## **Dropping:**

Use a level to make sure the Tile is completely level from all angles and adjust the position and/or prop up with Fiber Paper pieces if necessary (**Image 5**). Once level, center the 4" glass blank created in the GMI80 onto the Drop Tile and fire using the suggested schedule in **Table 2**, adjusted as needed for your kiln.

If your kiln has a peephole, begin checking to see if the top glass has dropped enough to contact the Casting Rock (or other glass foot) about 45 minutes into the hold of **Segment 2** of the schedule (**Image 7**). If it hasn't dropped enough, more hold time may be needed. If the glass is making contact when checked, proceed to the annealing portion (**Segment 3**) of the firing schedule.

If your kiln lacks a peephole (and you feel comfortable enough doing so) you can stand to the side and crack the lid very slightly open away from you and check on it that way. If you don't feel comfortable doing this, you can simply allow the piece to fire using the 45 minute suggested hold time on **Segment 2** and let it continue to fire following the rest of the schedule. Then, once finished and cooled, you can check to see the drop amount. If the glass has not dropped sufficiently, simply replace it in the kiln and re-fire using the same schedule, adjusting the hold on **Segment 2** as you see fit depending on how far the glass dropped during the first firing.

Table 2: Drop*				
Seg.	Rate	Temp (°F)	Hold	
1	275	650	15	
2	350	1320	45-60	
3	9999	950**	90	
4	100	500	05	

\*\*If using COE90, adjust this to 900°F

\*Before firing, it's important to know your kiln to see if you need to adjust our suggested schedules for your use. For tips on how to do that, <u>please click here to</u> <u>see our Important Firing</u> Notes!



Base







Page 2