

## Hues2Fuse Glass Fusing Paints- Sgraffito Technique

Hues 2 Fuse colors for glass fusing are non toxic pigments that can be applied to a wide range of glass surfaces. They can be applied to fusible glass and kiln fired in the normal fusing process, or they can be applied to wine bottles or other "non fusible" low coefficient glass and kiln fired in a slumping process. You should always wear a dust mask when working with ANY powders or dust-making materials.



A fun technique to use with the Hues 2 Fuse colors is the **sgraffito** technique. This technique involves scratching through or away a layer of still-wet paint to reveal what's underneath, whether this is another dried layer of paint or, in the case of fusing, the base glass beneath).

White or Black glass makes a good "base" surface color for employing sgraffito technique because the white and black will show through clearly wherever the paint is scraped away. The contrast of either white or black against the Hues 2 Fuse colors will really make your design "pop".

To create a sgraffito design using Hues 2 Fuse colors, blend the desired Hues 2 Fuse pigments (powder) in a ratio of 2:1 with the Hues 2 Fuse medium on a pallet. When you are using a sgraffito technique it **will** be necessary to apply a thick layer of paint/colors to the base glass (remember, you are going to REMOVE some of the paint in order to create your picture).

You may want to leave the edges of the glass unpainted to serve as a border for your design (see photo below). Several shades of color can also be applied to the glass and colors can be blended together to create interesting effects; light and shadow.



After you have created a satisfactory loose design using your Hues2Fuse pigments, allow the paint to dry until the surface is no longer shiny but do not allow the color to dry completely to the point where the colors are very light and chalky looking. The colors will chip off in large pieces when scratched away if the Hues 2 Fuse has been allowed to dry completely.

Using any number of simple household items like the back of a small paint brush, or the end of a pencil eraser, you can begin to remove some paint from the glass in a desired pattern. You can choose a line art design to carve into the color or you can elect to carve the pigments away around one of the designs you created in paint in order to tighten the design and/or add shading and contrast. When your design is complete, allow the paint to dry completely. Later, any loose pigment pieces can be removed by carefully turning over the glass and tapping it on the back.

After the painting is completely dry you can opt to center your glass painting in the middle of a larger piece of complementary compatible fusing glass to create a frame around your piece (see photos).

Place your project on a piece of Thin Fire paper on a pre-washed (and well dried) kiln shelf and fire the project according to the following firing schedule:

Ramp up at 325/hour to 1275F  
Hold for 10 minutes  
Ramp up at 585/hour to 1450F  
Hold for 2 minutes  
Ramp down at 999/hour to 960F  
Hold for 60 minutes  
Ramp down at 200/hour to 200F and STOP

Do not open the kiln until the pyrometer or your digital controller indicate that the temperature **INSIDE** the kiln is **AT** room temperature.