

Bleeding Hearts

Lampwork Glass Tutorial

By Mary Lockwood

Thank you for your interest in my Bleeding Heart Focal Tutorial. I hope you enjoy working with it; these make great pendants for the spring season! You will see two different variations in the tutorial. One is a simple, partly open bleeding heart (which is great for beginners) and another flower that is more advanced into its bloom. They are fun to make and go great together in multiples for sets.

Please read the entire tutorial through once before beginning to work.

Necessities and Materials

GLASS & MATERIAL

5mm diameter rods of 104coe glass:

- 1 opaque white
- 1 transparent rubino oro, gold ruby

Please note that any coe of white and transparent pink can be used for these focals.

EQUIPMENT & SAFETY

Standard Safe Studio Requirements including but not limited to:

- Fire Extinguisher
- Good Ventilation
- Lampworking Safety Glasses
- Propane Outside
- Oxygen Tanks chained securely
- Bowl of water on work surface
- *You are responsible for your own safety!**

Tools and equipment:

- Mashers
- Graphite Marver or paddle
- Steel mandrels dipped in bead release
- Sharp steel or brass poking tool
- Hot Plate or Warmer



Bleeding Hearts

When the winter starts feeling too long and there is still no spring in sight, it is time to take matters into your own hands! Fire up the torch and get some flowers blooming!

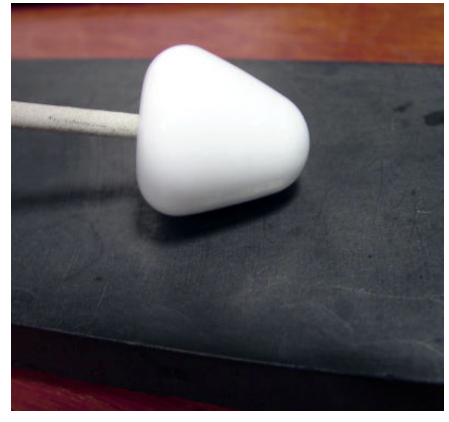


1- At the end of a steel mandrel dipped in bead release, form a small, cone-shaped gather of white.

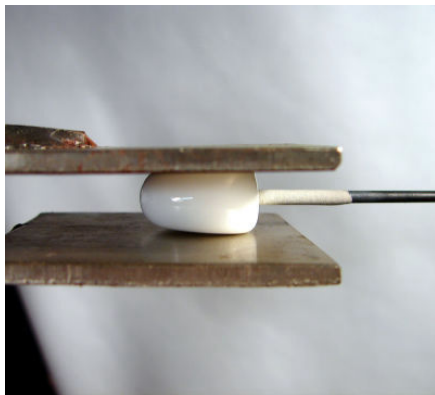
This should extend past the tip of the mandrel.



2- Continue adding glass to this gather until it is about $\frac{3}{4}$ " long. You should have at least $\frac{1}{2}$ " of mandrel embedded into the cone.

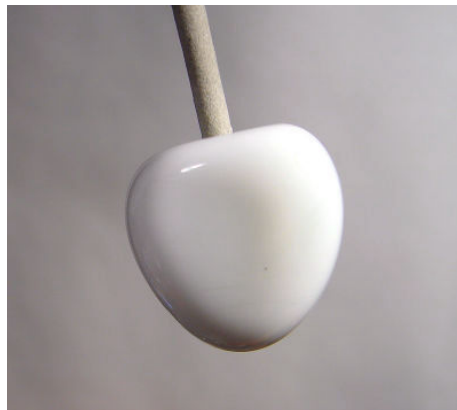


3- Marver your cone to refine the shape and smooth the surface. Take time to be sure it is balanced and centered before proceeding.



4- Use parallel mashers or your bench marver and hand paddle to press the cone and flatten it.

Do not mash this too thin.



5- At this point in the tutorial you should have a white, triangular tab with a dimpled top hole and no bottom hole.

Flame-polish this to remove any tool/chill marks and stabilize the heat.



6- Gently heat the rod of transparent pink (rubino) and apply a swipe from the center of flat front in a diagonal line down to the lower left side.