

Weaver's Perfect Tool

Text and Demonstration by William "Boxfan" Menzies and Sherry Quaid

Photography by Jennifer Quaid

Glass Color Rods

Amber Purple

Black

Weaver Tools

Tribal Face Mold

10-Point Optic Mold

Perfect Tool Marver

Other Tools and Materials

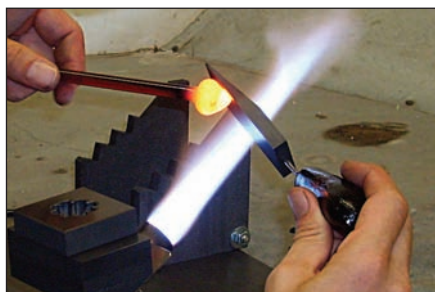
Graphite Torch Marver

6mm Clear Rod Puntty

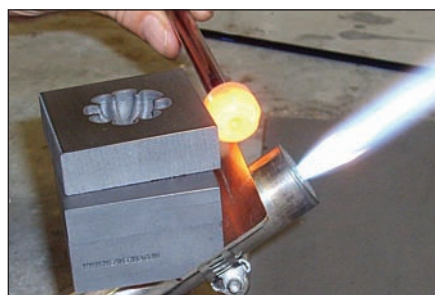
Tweezers Tungsten Pick

I have been a fan of the Weaver graphite molds for some time now, so I was excited when Nathaniel asked me to try out the company's Advanced Lampworking Kit of graphite tools. The precision of the tooling is unsurpassed, utilizing computer-aided graphite machining. I chose to make a pendant using what I would have thought would be one of the more difficult face molds. In a very short time, I had knocked out a really neat pendant using two of the molds that came in the kit. The only bad part was packing the kit up to send it to Eugene Glass School, as Weaver had donated it to the Flame-Off. Luckily I was able to buy one from Malcolm at ARTCO. I urge you to check out the variety offered by the more than fifty molds that Weaver offers.

1



Gather and shape the color for the ten-point medallion.



Make sure that the color barrel has a bit smaller diameter than the mold.

2



Thoroughly reheat the barrel until it is ripping hot.

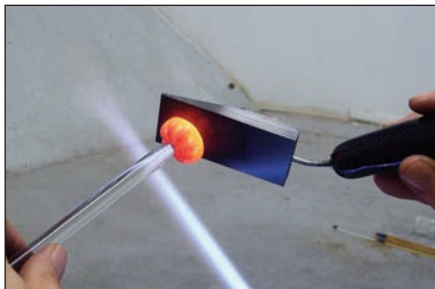
Carefully maneuver it over the mold. Quickly and deliberately press the gather into the mold.



3



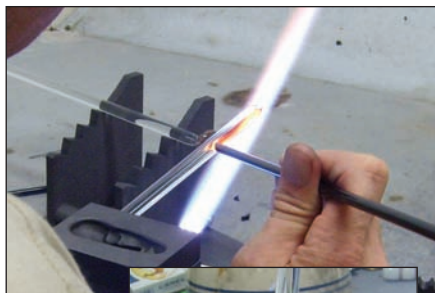
Disconnect your new medallion from the color rod.



Using the "Perfect Tool," marver the back to a slight point. This will help alleviate acute angles when it is attached.

4

Stripe over the 10 mm rod with color.

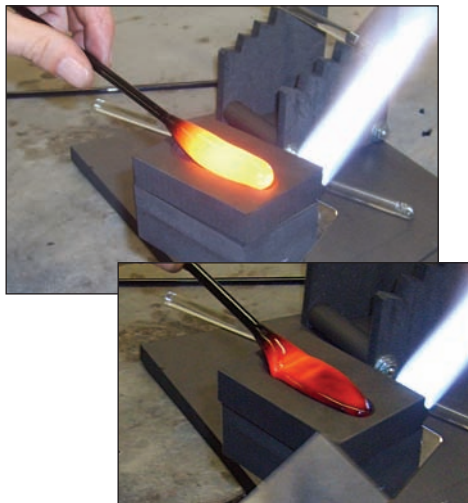


I twist my color thoroughly to insure an even coat of color. Shape your gather with the mold in mind.



5

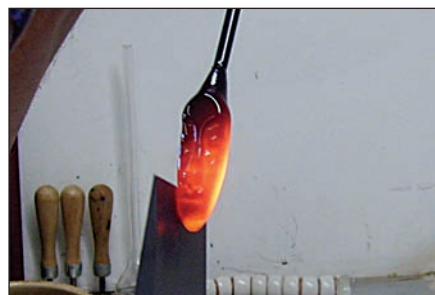
Get the shaped gather ripping hot.



Gently lay the gather in the Tiki Face mold and then press down with the Perfect Tool.

6

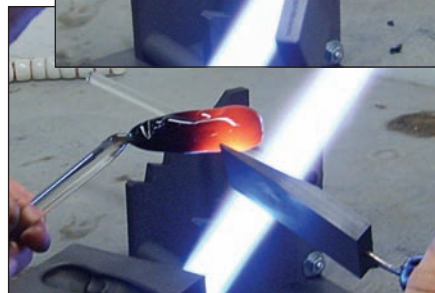
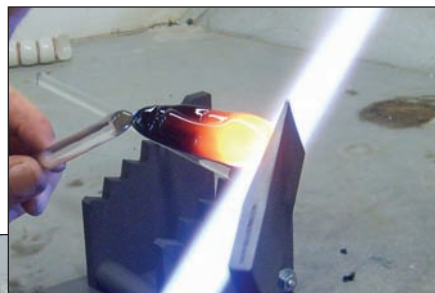
Shape up the lower jaw of the face to clean up where any glass has overlapped the mold.



Attach a punty to the chin and disconnect from the color rod.

7

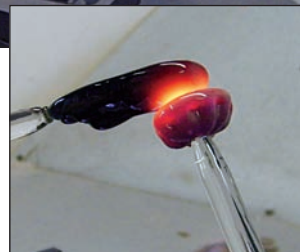
Heat and shape the forehead.



While there is heat in the head, use the Perfect Tool to clarify any lines.

8

Preheat the medallion and the forehead, preparing for a strong fuse of the "headdress."



When the heat is right, press the two firmly together. Then pull slightly apart to avoid acute angles.

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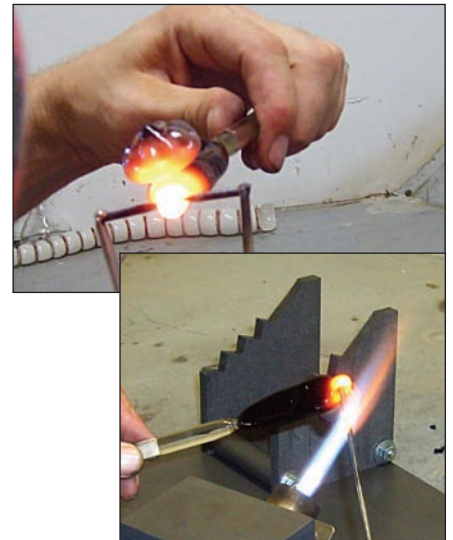
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Everything we produce is made with pride by craftsman in the United States.

After the bit is melted in, I pierce using my Handy Andy tweezers. The clasp is finished with a 4 mm tungsten pick.

9

Add a small bit for the clasp.



10

Tack a cold punty to the clasp and begin to work the chin.



I chose to add some small bits to make a layered "goatee." Work all the bits into a continuous shape.

To finish, tap the punty off of the clasp and polish the punty mark. Throw that beaut into the oven. Run an appropriate annealing cycle for your COE and striking colors.

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Weaver Industries Glass Tool Division would like to express thanks to Ruth Nicholas in her innovation of ideas and the assurance of quality when she picked Weaver Industries to produce and distribute her designs and concepts. Ruth and Weaver Glass Tool Division are ready to *rock*, serving with zest and zeal to promote the glass art community. For more information on Weaver Industries and the opportunities for distribution or custom and machine-designed work out of graphite, please visit www.weaverind.com or phone Nathanael at Weaver Industries Glass Tool Division. Please make all inquiries at 800-292-7670.

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4/2007
6,50 EUR

ISSN 1435-8565
K49413
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www.glasshouse.de

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Internationales Magazin für Studioglas

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