We have made a Christmas Tree using the GM173. The finished piece can be used as a bowl for serving snacks on or just as decoration for your home this Christmas. It can also be part of a set of trees if you make the medium and small using the GM174 & GM175 (image 1).

Treat the mold with Boron Nitride spray (ZYP) making sure to coat all of the areas of the mold. All of the glass used in this tutorial is fusible and COE 96.

For the tree base cut a glass triangle of Lemon Grass Opal to the size associated with the Triangle Slump mold you have selected to work with- GM173 Large, GM174 Medium or GM175 Small. For this tutorial we have picked the Large GM173. To do this simply turn your mold upside down on the glass (we used Lemon Grass Opal) and trace around the border of the mold with a sharpie. Then, cut out exactly what you have traced.

Cut some wavy strips of Lime Green transparent glass and Light Green transparent glass (image 2). The strips should be approximately 1/2" wide and range in length from the width of the triangle. Make sure you leave approximately 1” of a gap at then end of the triangle for the presents (image 3, and see presents under the tree in image 5). To make the star accent on the top of the tree we nipped some Dichroic on Black with mosaic nippers and placed them in a star shape on the top of the tree (image 4).

Clean the base of the glass and the strips of glass to remove any sharpie residue and other smudges. Arrange the strips onto the Lemon grass triangle leaving the bottom area of the triangle empty (leave the bottom 1.25" of the large Triangle Slump tree empty, the bottom 1” of the medium Triangle Slump tree empty and the bottom 3/4” of the small Triangle Slump tree empty) . If necessary nip the ends of the strips so they do not hang over the edge of the triangle (image 3). Use some Super Glue sparingly or another appropriate glue to glue the strips into place.

Cut random squares and rectangles from Flame Red Opal glass, White Opal and Cherry Red Transparent glass. The squares/rectangles for the largest Triangle Slump tree should range from 1” - 3/4” in size. The squares/rectangles for the medium Triangle Slump tree should range from 3/4” to 1/2” in size and the squares/rectangles for the smallest Triangle Slump tree should range from 1/2” - 3/16” in size. Arrange the squares/rectangles on the bottom of the triangle as packages beneath the lowest bow (image 5). Glue the packages into place. Use a mosaic nipper to nip 1/4” pieces off of a White Opal and a Red Opal rod. Place the nipped rod pieces up right on the bows of the tree to represent ornaments (image 6). Glue the rod pieces into place.

Place the project on kiln shelf paper in the kiln and fire using the recommended tack fire firing schedule found in Table 1*. When the tree has been fired you can add some liquid gold onto the gifts under the tree to add detail such as ribbon, we made gold ball ornaments on the tree with the liquid gold too (image 7).

Treat the triangle slump mold you have with a quality glass separator. Allow the glass separator to dry completely and place the mold on short kiln posts on a kiln shelf. Then allow the tack fired Christmas tree to cool naturally, remove it from the kiln, add the gold detail and then place it in the mold for slumping (image 8). Fire the glass in the kiln using the slump firing schedule found in table 2.

With endless possibilities, what will you create? Send images of your pieces to Kelley at creativeparadiseinc@live.com

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*Before you fire and slump please click here to read important firing notes.