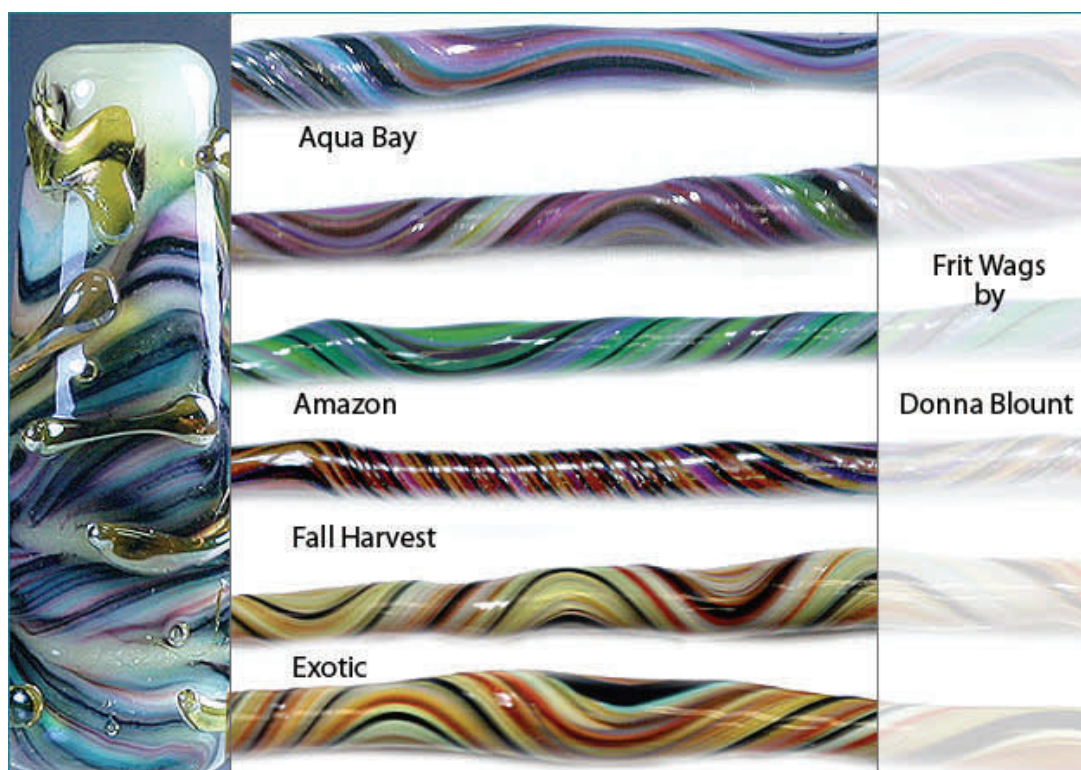


Glass Diversions

How to make Frit Wags

Frit Wags got their name from Donna Blount who was making Wig Wags using my frit blends and she aptly named them 'Frit Wags'.

Here is a tutorial by Donna on how she goes about making these.



Donna uses an old mandrel but they can also be made on the end of a rod. She recommends starting with a 96COE base color glass that will show the frit well. Wind a small (grape size) amount of glass on the end of the mandrel. Roll it in your choice of frit three times, each time melting in the frit. Then stripe on a couple of small lines of intense black stringer. Any contrasting color could be used. Melt smooth and start your pull just like you would pull a twisty stringer, by turning your hands in opposite directions a couple of times. Don't pull out the whole gather, just a little bit of it. Go back into the flame and heat the rest of the gather some more. Then bring it out of the flame for a couple of seconds to let it cool so that you can begin twisting in the opposite direction to make your wag. Stop and reheat the wag a little further back each time and continue your pull, lightly, to stretch it out as you twist each time. Do this with the entire gather of glass: heat, twist and pull, cool, heat, twist and pull in the opposite direction.

Apply your Frit Wags to a base bead using the same 5-15% rule of thumb as you would with any 96COE frit being used with other COE base glass.

Enjoy!