

Changeable Ring Top Tools Tutorial

Making unique & stunning changeable ring tops is fun and addictive. Designs are only limited to your imagination! These specially made tools are ideal for the soft glass lampworker, and this tutorial teaches you how to use them with commercially available Sunset Blvd. stainless steel changeable rings & pendants, as well as RingDing sterling silver threaded rings.



Contact JetAgeStudio.com for information on purchasing kits.

Floraloca Collection[®] by Renee Wiggins



◀ Mandrel parts for this system include: a threaded mandrel, coupling threaded disk, & various sized nuts that get embedded in the glass.



Preparing your mandrel tools



1

Screw on the disk base to the mandrel, & lightly tighten, do not over tighten. Coat the whole base evenly with bead release, & dry thoroughly (I use a hair dryer to speed the process).




2

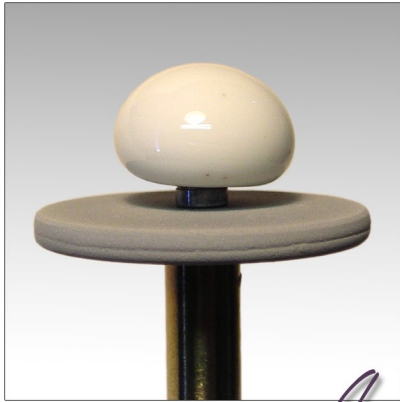
Pinch off excess bead release from top threads (this cleans the threads & helps to seat the nut easier). Screw on the size nut of your choice snugly to the base, making sure the hex shaped ridge is facing out.



3

Dab a bit of release on top of the nut to ensure hot glass doesn't stick to the tip of the mandrel. Do not put the release on any other part of the nut, it must be uncoated.

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4

Heat the nut enough for the glass to stick to it, and to ensure the dab of release is completely dry. There is no need to heat the disk. To avoid outgassing in the glass, don't over heat the metal nut. Add enough glass to the end of the nut, heat sufficiently and let gravity slump it down to rest on the base. Here I'm using white.



5

This example shows the glass cab is beginning to form. I'm creating depth and volume with transparent color by adding to the base layer of white. Of course you can choose to work with a single color, or as many colors as you wish. I have lightly pressed the mass with a marver, spreading it out over the mandrel base so it doesn't get too top heavy.



6

I've now added more color layers to build up the final size I want for my ring top. Heat through to firepolish and even out into a nicely shaped cab. This is a basic cab that can now be adorned with any element of design you wish.

7

Once you're done creating your cab, heat evenly as you would to prepare a bead for annealing, pop it into the kiln and follow your normal annealing schedule.

▼ The finished ring!



8

When cool, simply unscrew cab from the mandrel, clean the back, screw onto your ring base and enjoy!



Top of the cab before adding murrini.

These tools are compatible with **RICO DESIGN** Sunset Blvd. rings & pendants, as well as silberwerk RingDing rings. Tool kits & a selection of rings and supplies can be purchased through contacting us at our online store: www.JetAgeStudio.com

We welcome any questions or comments you may have using this exciting new changeable system.

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