

## Using Oceanside Compatible™ Iridescent Glasses

Our iridescent glasses have been flash-fired with a micro-thin layer of metallic crystal creating a reflective surface that shimmers in rainbow, silver, or gold tones. Because of its metallic nature, the coating has specific characteristics that are important to understand as you plan fused glass projects. Below, you will find information, tips, and ideas to help you achieve your fusing goals using Oceanside Compatible iridescent glasses.

### The metallic coating doesn't melt so it resists bonding

If you were to try to fuse two iridized surfaces facing together, they will not bond well, if at all.

When stacking a design on top of an Iridized surface, you may get more of a tack-fused look than you intend. Use this to your advantage to create very dimensional work, or adjust your schedule.

To fully clear-cap an Iridescent glass, make sure your piece of clear is slightly larger (between 1/8" and 1/4" on all sides) so that it has enough area to bond with the edges of the glass below.

### The metallic coating doesn't stretch

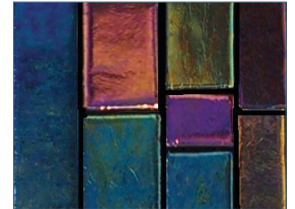
This is why a crackling effect can be seen when Iridescent glasses are allowed to spread — especially when the irid surface is on top, face-up. (See example at right.) Enjoy the look—alternately, dam pieces or construct them using a circular design (where the glass tends to draw inward when full-fused) to minimize the effect. Clear-capping produces more of a pinching or crinkling look as the clear presses into the coated surface below.



*This sample, Irid surface on top, was allowed to spread and shows crackling.*

### The same coating is more dramatic on darker glasses

The rainbow iridescence on Clear or White is much more subtle and delicate than on darker colors or Black, which is the most dramatic. See photo at right illustrating how sections of Iridescent Black can be used as separate colors in a piece.)



*The many different hues that can be seen in a single sheet of Black Irid.*

### Firing for Different Effects



**Irid side down:** in this example, the iridescent surface of the glass is placed face down on the kiln shelf paper, with a piece of clear on top. This look can make a lovely matte finish for either the top or bottom of a piece.



**Irid side up:** in this example, the iridescent surface of the glass is placed face up on top of a piece of clear. This gives the most opportunity for glass to spread and crackle.



**Irid side up and capped with clear:** in this example, the iridescent surface of the glass is placed face-up and capped with a slightly larger piece of clear glass on top. (See note above regarding sizing of clear-cap.)

### Using Clear Textured Iridescent Glasses

Place the texture side down onto a darker base glass. Although the texture will flatten using a full fuse, the irid design from the texture will still be visible with interesting distortions from the texture.

**NOTE:** If you are unsure of how an effect is going to look on your project, do small tests first.

**TIP:** In smaller pieces of Iridescent Clear (or other light colors), it can be difficult to tell which side has the coating. Simply scratch both sides with your fingernail—the Irid surface will grip more than the smooth glass side.