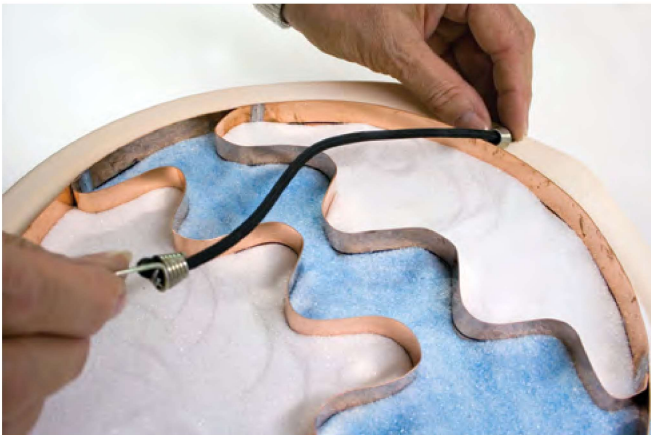


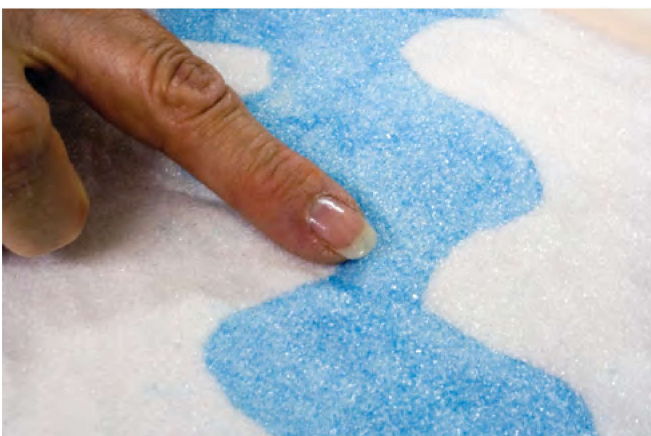
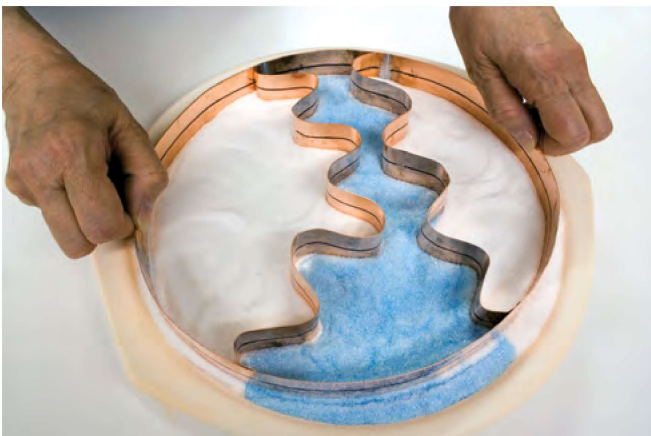


16. Now fill the space around the outside edge - between the copper circle and the inside wall of the mold. I like to use a small tapered spoon to fill this section up to the fill line with frit. You'll notice that I matched the frit color in this outside space with the color that is on the inside of the ring. I wanted the color to extend all the way to the outside edge of my plate, however you could put a contrasting color in this outside space (black for instance) to create a black frame around the perimeter of the plate. Fill this area with frit up to the fill line and pack it down to make it level and tight.



17. Now the real magic happens. Remove both bungee cords. Grasp the copper ring with both hands and slowly, carefully lift the copper template straight up. Voila your frit design is born.

18. This next step is very important. If you look carefully you will see a slight space at the seams where the frit colors meet - this is the space left by the copper template. Use your finger to press down along these seams to bring the frit together tightly. This is a very important step - if this is not done the glass will separate along these seams when it is heated. This is especially true when a dark color and a light color are next to each other. The darker color will absorb the heat a little quicker, causing it to shrink and pull away, opening a slit in the glass. Sometimes I'll even go one step further - I turn a frit jar upside down and use the top of the lid to tamp down and tightly pack the frit.



The palm tree above, plus the river and the wave motif on the next page, are alternate designs that would work very well with this copper damming system.