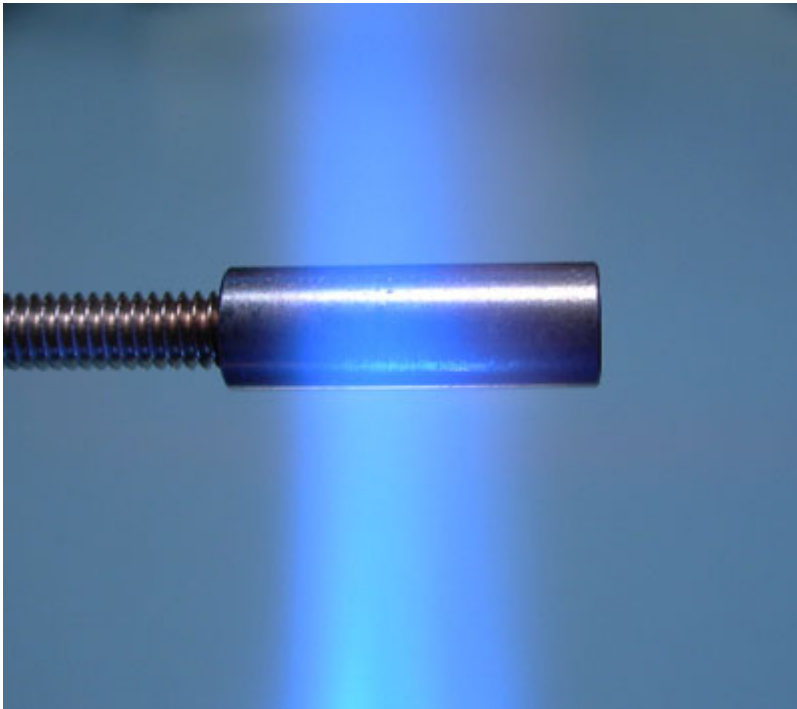


ZooziiHeart Knob Tutorial

Screw your insert onto the mandrel.



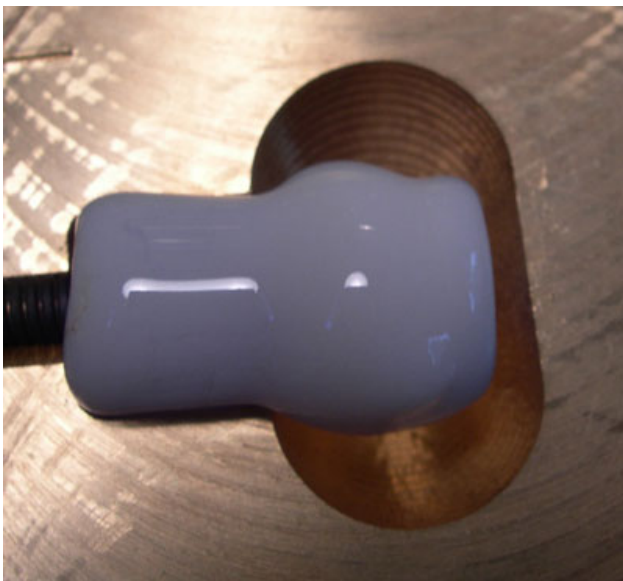
Heat the insert as you would to prepare to apply the glass to a regular mandrel. Concentrate the heat on the insert, not the mandrel.



Wind glass around the insert. Leave a small space at the end of the insert where the mandrel is connected. You do not want the glass to end up touching the mandrel. If you leave the space, when you press the glass should fill in, right up to the edge of the insert without spilling over.



Heat the footprint, and then use the bottom of your press to form the tube. Heat again and press. Using the bottom of the press as a shaper allows you more control over your glass to be sure you have the right amount and to be sure you do not press the glass over the edge of the insert. Pressing after you shape insures the tube is centered and it gives you a nice dent where the knob begins. You will use this as a guide for laying the rest of the glass.





Add glass to the end of the tube where the knob will be formed. I use the ridge that was formed during pressing to know where the glass needs to start. You are done forming the tube so you do not want any more glass in that area. I build it in a disc shape until it is about the same width and length as the press. This should give you enough to fill the depth. Heat well and press. You want to heat well so that the glass will move down into the tip. You may want to press twice, heating in between so you get the bottom of the press to fill out all the way.



You may have a slight ridge around the center of the heart. If so, just fire polish it off. If it is really large, you can heat and pull it off with some tweezers. Then reheat and press again. Usually if it's small enough it will just fire polish off easily.



I would recommend decorating before you put the heart ridge in. This way your decorations will also receive the crease, however, you can crease, decorate and recrease if necessary, if you'd like.

I allow for you to put your own crease in, which can be done with a razor tool, or a knife of any sort. The reason I don't make the ridge in the tool is to allow for greater creativity for you. You can make the crease off center and the nudge the bottom of the heart with a hand tool to get a stylized look. You can be as creative as you want. Since I don't add the crease you can also make triangle knobs...just don't add the crease. Have fun and experiment!

