

Setting CZ's

A free tutorial by Lisa Atchison

www.touchofglassdesigns.blogspot.com

I have been asked how I set CZ's, so I thought I would do a quick tutorial. I'm sure there are other ways...this is just how I do it. I hope you find this helpful!



I use a tungsten pick and a sharp pair of tweezers...if the bead is bicone, I also use a marver. I use 2.0 and 2.5 mm CZs.



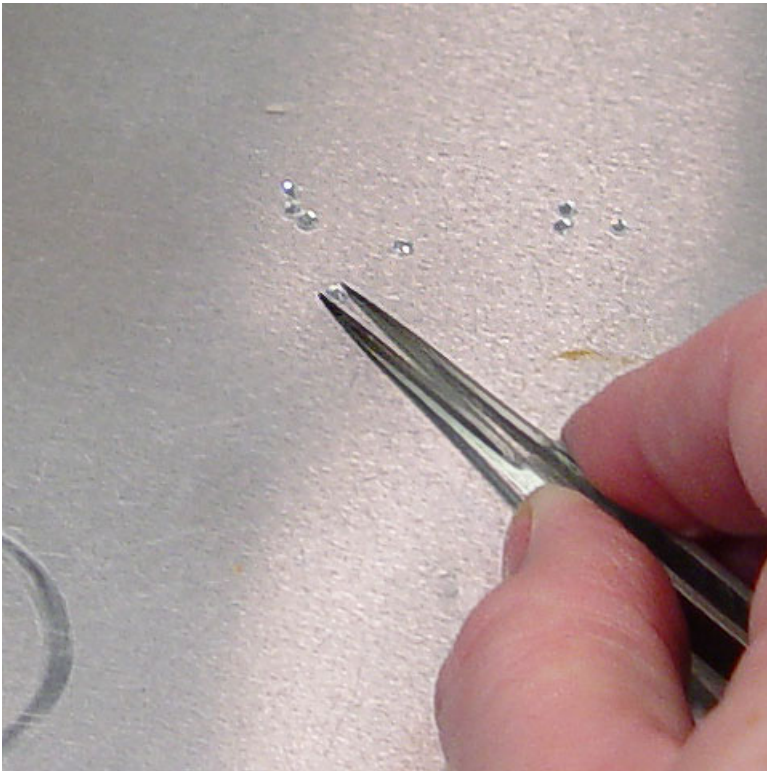
Before you make your bead, turn your CZs point side up. Just a note: I have found that CZs and the glass around it will sometimes crack if placed on transparent glass. CZs do great if you put them on silvered ivory.



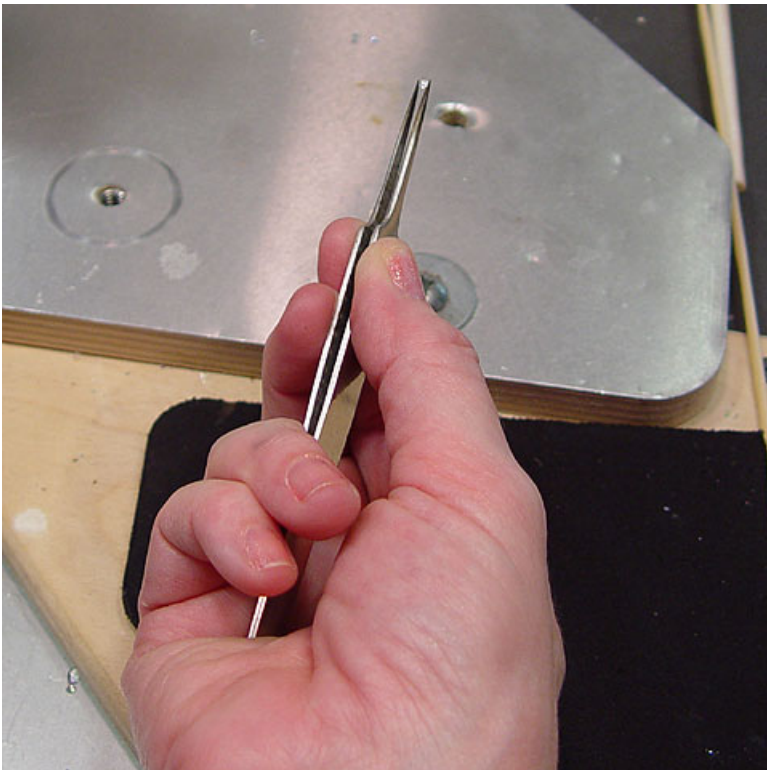
Heat the spot on your bead where the CZ will go.



Make a very small impression with your tungsten pick where the CZ will go. Be sure not press too hard, as you could distort your bead. **Also, throughout the process and after each step, be sure to keep your bead heated!!**



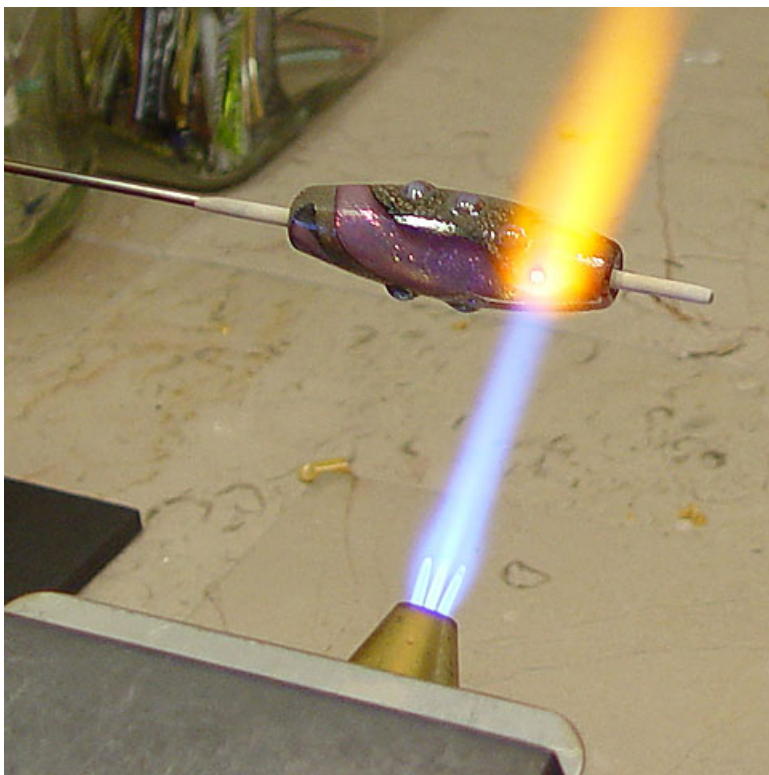
Pick up the CZ with the tweezers.



Flip your hand over resting your knuckles on your work bench. This will stabilize your hand.



Bring your bead to the CZ, and place the CZ in the impression. Do not try to take the CZ to the bead....that is when they go flying!! (Slippery little buggers!) Let your bead heat the CZ for a few seconds before you put the bead back in the flame. This will help keep the CZ from cracking.



Spot heat the CZ for a few seconds.



While still hot, use your tweezers to tap the CZ flush with the bead



Spot heat again to fire polish and remove any tweezer marks. (If making a bicone bead, you can also gently marver it)



Lisa Affari
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