

# Delphinium Garden

By Sheila Davis

This watercolor style bead was inspired by the delphiniums planted by my husband. They come in light and dark blue. If you don't have delphiniums in your yard, Google images has a plethora of inspiration! This bead also looks great in a long tube or barrel shape, but you might not get as much spreading. Add a little glass at a time for the flowers; you can always go back and add more glass.



## TOOLS AND SUPPLIES:

- ❑ Catwalk Wide Crunch #3 press
- ❑ Marver

## **Base bead - one of the following:**

- ❑ Effetre Antique Green #591852
- ❑ CiM Dirty Martini #511448
- ❑ CiM Lichen #511418

## **Flower Canes:**

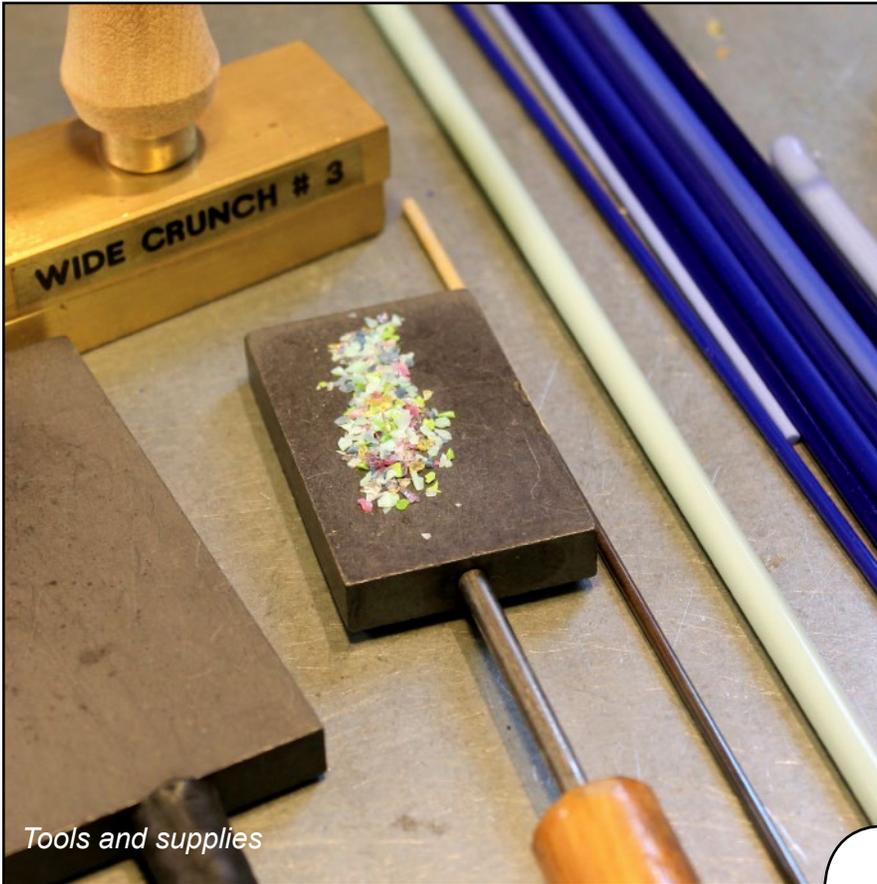
- ❑ Effetre Periwinkle Dark #591222
- ❑ Effetre Periwinkle Light #591220
- ❑ Effetre Lapis Cobalt #591246
- ❑ Effetre Lapis Medium #591242
- ❑ Effetre Lapis Light #591240
- ❑ Effetre commercial stringers, Light Blue and Dark Blue

## **Light Stem Canes:**

- ❑ CiM Olive Green #511476
- ❑ Effetre Dark Brown commercial stringer
- ❑ Effetre Transparent Light Grass Green #591020

## **Dark Stem Canes:**

- ❑ CiM Commando #511475
- ❑ CiM Army Men #511403
- ❑ CiM Goblin #511424 (or other dark green glass)
- ❑ Effetre Black commercial stringer
- ❑ Effetre Dark Grass Green #591024 or Effetre Transparent Sage Green #591019
- ❑ Frit with greens and purples/pinks, such as: Frit Diva Inspirations, Glass Diversions Spring Violet, or Bead Goodies Faerie Realm
- ❑ Etch-All liquid etching solution or tumbler.



Tools and supplies

## BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

Make and pull canes for the flowers and stems.

Create flower canes by making a gather on the end of an uncoated mandrel with a base of the darker blue with four light blue stripes. Then make some with a light blue base and dark blue stripes. Pull them about 1mm thick.

Make stem canes the same way, with four stripes of the dark brown stringer and encasing the gather with the grass green. Pull to about 1mm thick.

## THE BASE BEAD:

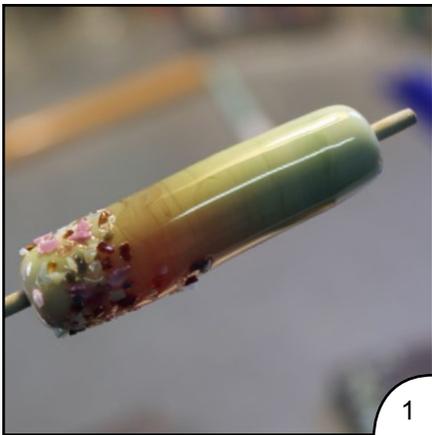
**Step 1:** Make a two-inch long barrel of the base color, about 3/8-inch to 1/2-inch thick. Roll in the frit and melt in.

**Step 2:** Press in the Catwalk press to create the flattened shape.

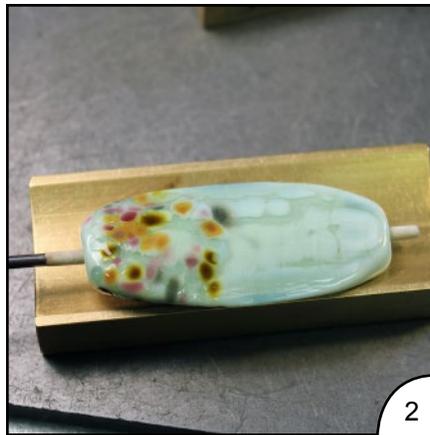
## STEMS AND FLOWERS:

**Step 3:** Holding the mandrel with the tip facing the torch, add the stem cane, swiping down. Use alternate light and dark canes, but not necessarily every other one. Also make them different lengths. Melt in and press again, but not too hard.

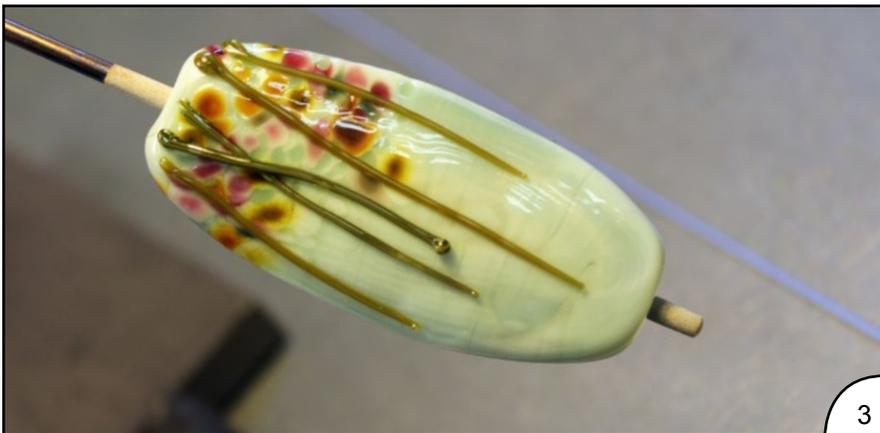
You can add a little more frit over the bottom of the stems at this point so they look like they are growing out of the ground cover and not lying on top of it.



1



2



3



**Step 4:** On the light stems, using the light blue flower cane, make dots of color. It's sort of a stabbing movement, just to the right and under the flame, moving the bead as you go up. Be sure to leave spaces on the stem, otherwise it will look too blobby.

**Step 5:** Repeat with the dark flowers on the dark stems.

**Step 6:** Melt in and press. See if it needs filling in at this point. Even a few dots off the stem at the top give a wispy look. If there is not enough contrast, you can use a solid color stringer for definition of color and depth.

**Step 7:** If you want to cover more of the stems at the bottom you can add a little more frit and melt it in. Give a final melt, press and fire polish.

**Step 8:** Etch or tumble for a matte finish. And this is what your final bead should look like – fresh delphiniums straight from the garden!





*An assortment of delphinium beads showing just how much variety you can achieve by using different frits and colored canes.*



#### **ABOUT THE ARTIST:**

Pacific Northwest artist Sheila Davis has been a full-time lampwork glass artist since 2009. Creating her popular earthy organic style beads and floral botanicals, she constantly challenges herself to improve and expand her knowledge and skills. The result is what only can be described as a true passion. Sheila has also found a wealth of camaraderie, learning, and friendship in the glass community.

Sheila's beads have been featured in *The Flow* magazine, *Soda Lime Times*, *Glass Bead Evolution*, and *Jewelry Designs in Bead Trends*, *Stringing*, and *Bead Unique* magazines.

You can find her work at:

<http://www.stonedesignsbysheila.etsy.com/>

*Earth laughs in flowers.*

*Ralph Waldo Emerson*