

Moretti 456 - Ruby Gold

COE 104

THE TRICK TO THIS COLOR IS SIMPLE: WORK IT COOL. WHETHER YOU USE A HOT HEAD OR A DUAL-FUEL TORCH, YOU NEED TO WORK THIS COLOR VERY SLOWLY OR IT WILL GO MUDDY ON YOU. THAT BEING SAID, RUBY GOLD IS ONE OF THE MOST GORGEOUS COLORS OUT THERE. IT IS A BEAUTIFUL PINKY-FUCHSIA. THE RODS AREN'T ALWAYS MUCH TO LOOK AT, BECAUSE THIS IS A STRIKING COLOR. THE UNHEATED RODS CAN BE ANYTHING FROM A SLIGHTLY MAUVE OR SMOKY COLOR THROUGH A MEDIUM DUSTY ROSE. ONCE YOU'VE HEATED THE ROD, THOUGH, THE COLOR WILL REALLY POP. TO GET THE BEST COLOR, YOU'LL WANT TO STRIKE IT. TO STRIKE A COLOR, YOU MAKE YOUR BEAD, GET IT TO THE FINAL SHAPE THAT YOU WANT IT TO BE, AND THEN TAKE IT OUT OF THE FLAME UNTIL THE GLOW IS GONE. THIS CAN TAKE AS MUCH AS 30 SECONDS. ONCE THE BEAD IS NO LONGER GLOWING, RE-INTRODUCE IT TO THE FURTHEST OUT PART OF THE FLAME AND START REHEATING IT GENTLY. YOU DON'T WANT TO HEAT IT TO BLAZING HOT, YOU JUST WANT TO WARM IT UNTIL IT BARELY BEGINS GLOWING AGAIN OVER THE ENTIRE BEAD, THEN REMOVE IT FROM THE HEAT. THIS SHOULD BRING OUT THE COLOR IN YOUR BEAD. IF NOT, LET IT COOL, THEN REHEAT IT GENTLY. THE COLOR WILL DEVELOP A LITTLE MORE AS THE BEAD COOLS DOWN TO ROOM TEMPERATURE IN THE KILN OR FIBER BLANKET. IT TAKES SOME PRACTICE, BUT IT'S WORTH IT. THINGS TO WATCH FOR: IF YOU'RE USING THE RUBY GOLD TO MAKE DOTS OR STRINGER LINES, MELT THE ROD/STRINGER OFF SLOWLY ONCE YOU'VE PLACED YOUR DOT/LINE, BECAUSE IT IS VERY EASY TO BURN THIS COLOR. THE BURN WILL APPEAR AS A TINY BLACK SMUDGE IF YOU'RE DOING DOTS AND LINES. JUST LIKE WITH BURNT TOAST, YOU CAN'T UN-BURN THE COLOR: IF IT BOTHERS YOU, YOU CAN USE A TWEEZERS TO PLUCK OFF THE BURNT AREA. YOU MAY WANT TO ENCASE THIS COLOR IN CLEAR TO HELP KEEP THE RUBY GOLD FROM BURNING. IF YOU ARE USING THE RUBY GOLD IN LARGER AREAS, YOU REALLY WANT TO DO YOUR FINAL SHAPING SLOWLY, OR ENCASE YOUR BEAD IN CLEAR BEFORE YOU DO YOUR SHAPING; THIS COLOR CAN TURN A MUDDY SHADE IF YOU OVERHEAT IT. AN ABSOLUTELY GORGEOUS WAY TO APPLY THIS COLOR IS TO ENCASE THE END OF A WHITE ROD IN RUBY GOLD AND PULL A STRINGER, THEN USE THE STRINGER ON YOUR BEADS. THE LINES WILL BE THAT BRILLIANT FUCHSIA ON THE SIDES OF THE STRINGER, AND A PALER PINK COLOR IN THE CENTER OF YOUR LINES. IN THE EXAMPLE BEADS, I'VE MADE BEADS USING STRINGERS WITH CORES OF PERIWINKLE, PURPLE (AKA EDP) AND WHITE. RUBY GOLD IS ALSO GREAT IN COMBINATION WITH COPPER GREEN BECAUSE IT PUSHES THE DARKER GREEN COLOR AWAY, SO YOU GET PALER GREEN CLOSE TO THE RUBY GOLD, AND DARKER GREEN LINES FURTHER AWAY. AS MENTIONED IN THE OTHER TIP SHEETS, WHEN WORKING ON A HOT HEAD, LIGHT YOUR T ORCH, THEN TURN THE FLAME DOWN UNTIL IT GETS QUIETER AND SEEMS LIKE IT IS CLOSE TO GOING OUT. THIS FLAME WILL NOT BE AS HOT, SO YOUR GLASS WILL MELT SLOWER, BUT IT WILL ALSO BE A MUCH CLEANER FLAME, SO YOU WILL GET LESS BOILING OR DISCOLORATION OF THE MORE TEMPERAMENTAL COLORS. TOP ROW MADE ON A MINICC, BOTTOM ROW ON A HOTHEAD.

