

## GOLD COAST CHINA - LUSTRE DIPPING – Lustre Dipping

Lustre should be fresh – not old and thick. If it is thick, the lustre will sink to the bottom.

Clean porcelain with Metho or Acetone to remove any dust and greasy marks.

Choose your colours and have them ready. 3 colours work well. A light colour, mid range colour and a dark colour (use the dark colour very sparingly)

1. Fill a plastic container (ice cream tub works well) with warm water.
2. Dip a toothpick into the bottle of fresh lustre and drop onto the surface of the warm water – the lustre should spread over the surface. Repeat this 2 more times – remember use the dark colour sparingly. If you wish, you can now gently move the lustre around the surface of the water to create shapes.
3. Now quickly dip your porcelain across the top of the water picking up the lustre. Do this until the whole of your piece is covered. The lustre will cling to the porcelain leaving patterns.

Until the piece is fired, the dipped item will look very messy. Fire 780-800deg.

Masking out an area: If you wish to dip just a section of your porcelain, use the Acetone based green resist to mask out areas you do not wish covered with the lustre. Wash brush in Acetone.

### Colour combinations which work well:

Irid Yellow, Avocado Green, Oak Brown (very sparingly)

Light Orange, Ocean Blue, Midnight Blue Violet (very sparingly)

Mother of pearl, Amethyst, Sapphire Blue (sparingly)

Mother of pearl, Midnight Blue Violet or Ruby. Fire and outline shapes with LB Gold.

LB Gold or Copper is also excellent as the darker 3<sup>rd</sup> lustre. The LB Gold must be fresh or it will sink to the bottom of the tub.

Experiment – use other combinations of the colours above.

ADDITIONAL Decoration – Pick up shapes and apply Texture Coat, Nu Relief or Sand paste push in pieces of glass. Fire 800deg. Apply LB Gold or Platinum over textured area. Fire 750.

Pen outline on shapes with LB Gold or Fools Gold. This technique looks great on bud vases, trinket boxes, jewellery or borders.

NOTE: a glass container works best as the lustre can be cleaned off the glass whereas the lustre clings to the plastic and it is very hard to clean.

Although, if you devote a plastic container for this purpose, the old lustre which has stained the plastic not effect later dipping procedures.

I keep an old ice cream container for this purpose