

LUSTRE TURPS REPEL – Gold Coast China

First Fire – Choose 3 lustre colours. 1 very pale, 1 mid tone, 1 a deeper tone (use this last one sparingly). Use 3 small dishes and put a little lustre colour in each dish. I put my bottles behind the dishes so that I know what colour is in each dish. You will need either a brush or small piece of sponge for each colour. Do not get the sponges mixed up as you are working or mix up the lids to each bottle. Tip: I label the lids so as not to mix them up.

Thin with lustre thinners until you have the consistency of water. You will have to use a lot of thinners if you have an old thick lustre. Remember the more thinners you use the more the colour will be diluted. Apply a liberal coat of thinners over the porcelain and (working quickly) apply your first pale colour haphazardly in various areas. Next (with a new piece of sponge) apply the next colour and finally a very small amount of the deeper tone – unless of course you want a deep colour tone - but be careful as the dark colours can take over.

Tip your piece from side to side/ up and down allowing the colours to run into each other. If the lustre is not blending very well you may have to drop more thinners as you work. Allow to dry and fire 750-800.

2nd Fire – Look over your piece and where some lustre has pooled it will flake off – not a problem as we can use these areas to create our designs. Sometimes you will have to repeat the above process if the colours are too pale. If so, repeat the first step and fire again. 750-800

Finally a coat of Mother of Pearl over the piece can add another dimension to the lustre creating beautiful effects. Fire 750-800

3rd Fire – Choose design lines in the lustre and apply fine lines with sand paste mix (see Instructions page on the website). This is where you can use those flaked off areas and incorporate them into your design lines. While the paste is still wet push small pieces of glass into the paste. If you are doing this on an upright piece (such as a vase or tealight) use small pieces of glass and pack the paste well around the glass so that it does not run down the porcelain in the kiln. If the piece is flat you will not have this problem and you can fire immediately. If the piece is standing/upright, wait until the paste has dried before firing. DO NOT use an open medium to mix your sand paste as your paste could run in the kiln.

Fire 800 – always fire your pastes to 800

4th Fire – Apply LB Gold, or LB Platinum over the fired Sand Paste. Fire 750

SUGGESTED COLOUR COMBINATIONS:

I always use Mother of Pearl or Iridescent Brightt Yellow as my base lustre. For your next 2 colours:

1. Ocean Blue or Sapphire Blue with any of the Pinks, Purples or Rubies look good.
2. Ocean Blue with a little orange is also another nice effect.
3. Avocado Green with any of the orange colours works well.

Use your knowledge of colour and have fun.