



FIRING SCHEDULE GUIDELINES

What the Firing Schedule Guidelines represent:

The recommended schedules are designed to provide experienced users with a general guide for a wide variety of kiln firing projects. It is expected that users with specific need will make modifications to suit their project and circumstances, particularly in the heating steps. The recommendations assume that most cooling is occurring from the exposed top side, and that the bottom is supported on a shelf or support system above the kiln floor, and therefore is insulating the glass a certain amount.

Limitations of the guidelines:

Our recommendations are based on post-firing thickness and are for all sizes of firings, limited only by your kiln dimensions. They are not intended to cover all possible form and technique variations that will be developed by artists. They do cover typical forms and mold systems, especially with common adjustments as described below. The schedule recommendations are not intended to be an instruction manual but simply reference tables. Please refer to current books on fusing or kiln firing, or to your instructor for detailed and specialized instruction. For unusual or high value projects, please contact Uroboros directly for more information.

How to select a recommended schedule:

Start by choosing a thickness based on the planned post-fired thickness of the design. Choose an 'assumed' final thickness instead of the actual final thickness if you need to adjust the normal firing schedule because of unusual factors such as large variations in thickness or color. We have recommendations for these adjustments in our Kiln Firing Tips.

Once you have settled on a thickness (or assumed thickness), Step 1 in the table provides you with a ramp rate to the first target temperature and a hold period. The Step One target temperature (the same for all thicknesses) is found at the top of the table. Each successive step follows the same format, except Step 2 or 3, where the peak temperature and hold period are chosen by you depending on the finished look desired. We provide some recommendations for selecting peak temperature and hold times in a separate table.

How were these guidelines developed?

These guides were compiled by Eric Lovell, founder of Uroboros Glass, and are experience-based modifications of theoretical two sided annealing & cooling tables. Most of the individual schedules have been used successfully by glass artists we work with regularly, with proven successful results.

Uroboros would like to particularly thank the following for their input and valuable perspective: Paul Marioni, Roger Thomas, Walter Gordinier, Henry Halem, Michael Behrens, Gerry Newcomb, Melanie Rowe, Leslie Rowe-Israelson, Gil Reynolds, Patty Gray, Hartmut Glenewinkel, Michael Dupille, Lucartha Kohler and Bill Ward.

These guidelines are evolving, and you can help! We invite you to make a contribution to future updates of the guide, particularly for unusual forms and sizes. Just send us a photo of your finished work, along with the firing schedule used, your kiln type, and how you determined the firing to be successful.