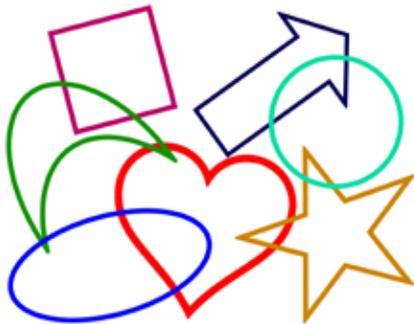


Flex-Form Stainless Steel Banding Kit

Fuse Master
PRODUCTS

Flex-Form is a durable and reusable stainless steel strip that can be bent to make just about any perimeter shape you would like for Casting Glass or containing Soft-Cast Sand for sand slumping. Although it is only 1/2" tall, when lined with an 1 1/2" tall by 1/8" thick length of fiber paper, it is plenty strong. The 6" length is enough to form a 21" diameter circle.



To use the banding, first decide on a shape. The banding can be bent into hearts, circles, stars or a wide range of free form shapes.

Next carefully undo the banding and save the brass wires. *The banding will pop open like a spring, so be very careful.*



Gently bend the banding into the form you desire. If you are making a circle, it is helpful to wrap the banding around a form. Other shapes can be bent free hand.



One 6' length of Flex Form will make a 9", 6" and 3" heart or a 21" diameter circle.

Caution – Contents will spring open when unwrapped. Wear gloves and safety glass when working with the banding.



The connecting point is where the two ends of the band come together. It is possible to tack weld or drill and bolt these ends with a stainless steel screw, but the easiest way to secure them is to make a folded tab.



Make two tabs that extend beyond the connecting point. The Short Tab should be about 1 1/2" long. The Long Tab needs to be 3" long or twice as long as the Short Tab.



If needed, cut the banding with metal shears or a hacksaw.



Bend the 3" Long Tab in half. You want it to fold back onto itself 1 1/2" in from the end. Insert the short tail into the gap of the long tail and pinch the long tail as tight as you can with pliers or vise grips.



Secure the connection by wrapping brass wire around the combined tails. Your form should now be secure. Fine tune your shape by gently bending the banding.



Place the metal form on a prepared kiln shelf. Line the interior of your form with a snug fitting layer of 1/8" fiber paper and add glass. Remember that frit will compress about 50% when fired, so 1/2" thick layer of frit will fire down to 1/4" solid piece of glass. Piling the majority of the frit in the center of the mold will minimize the sharpies around the edge. This sample had over 1" of frit and melted down to a 1/2" thick finished piece of glass.



Use Flex-Form with Soft-Cast Sand



The 1/2" tall Flex-Form is ideal for containing Soft-Cast Sand when sand slumping. Make a ring, square or any other shape of your choice. Level the ring filled with Soft-Cast Sand. Make impressions in the sand for the glass to pick-up. The areas that touch the sand will have a texture, the open areas will be clear. Single layers of 1/8" glass can be heated at around 400 degrees per hour up to 1350F / 730C and they should be annealed just like they would if they were on a kiln shelf. This is a great way to use up that old stained glass you might have stacked in the glass rack. If you use a single layer of glass, you usually don't have to worry about compatibility.

