

How to make an Elephant Bead

I am assuming that everyone who wants to make this bead has some knowledge of lampworking and working with the flame and glass. Its not a difficult bead to make, but do remember to play safe!

Whimsy creature beads can be any colour, but for this one I have used:

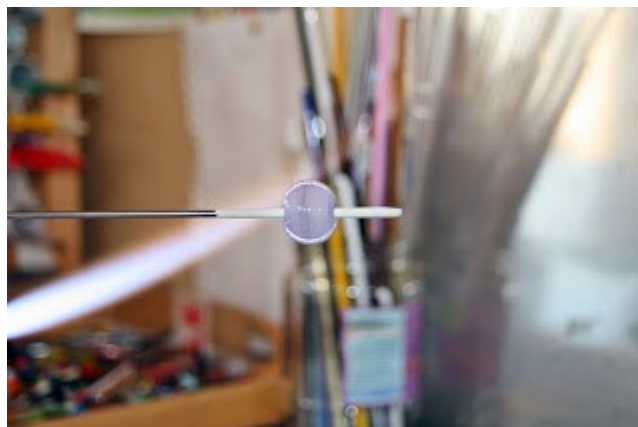
1 Rod of Grey
1 Stringer of Grey
1 Stringer of light ivory
1 Stringer of black
1 Stringer of white
1 Stringer of clear

1 Lentil press by Zoozii
Lampworking tools, such as pick, sharp blade etc.,

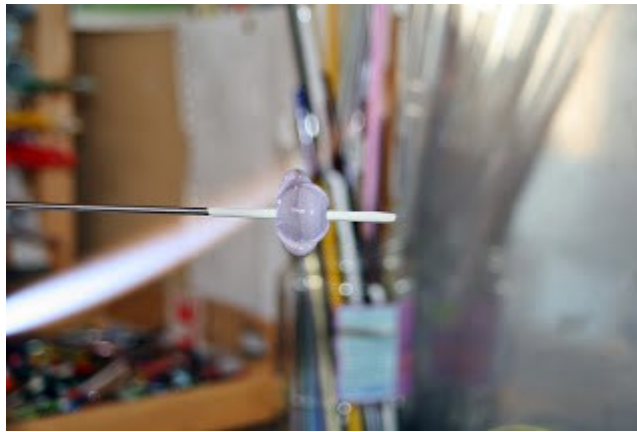
Start by winding a nice sized blob of grey onto a prepared mandrel.



After pressing into the lentil press, no need to be fussy about any over spill...



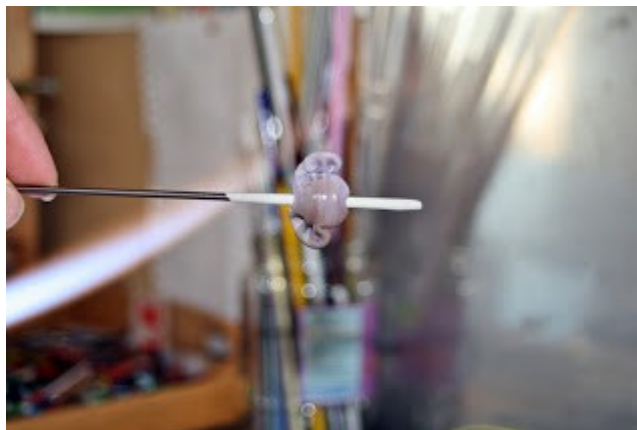
add a stripe of grey glass to both sides of the lentil,



Using your tweezers pinch the stripe of glass two or three times, this will be the ear of the elephant,



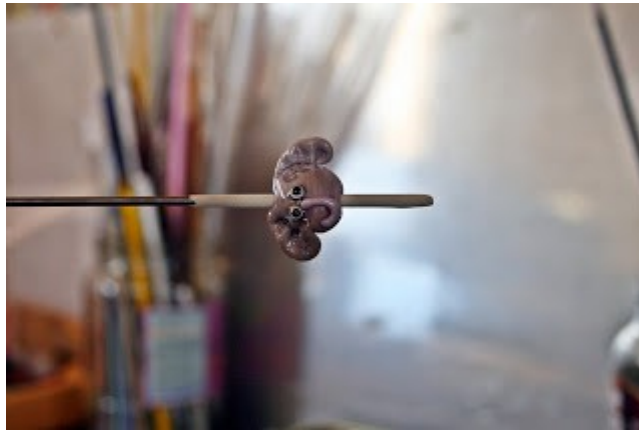
do both sides...and using your sharp blade, gently press the 'ear' crease up slightly to give more definition to the face shape.



Now add the eyes, I layer black, white, clear and then a black dot for the iris, but you can use another light transparent instead of clear to give different colour eyes, can you see the elephant yet??



Using the grey stringer, draw a J shape from between the eyes down to the bottom of the 'face'



Using your sharp blade, put some 'dents' into the 'trunk', then using your pick gently push the end of the trunk in to shape the elephant mouth.



Next, using your stringer of light (or dark) ivory, make two little stripes either side of the trunk,



again, using the grey stringer, put two dots on each top of the ivory stringer and gently press down, we now have tusks on our Elly!



Give your elephant a nice warm bath in the flame and pop into the kiln for annealing. All Beads of Courage beads have to be annealed and properly cleaned before you can send them in. Using the lentil shape means you don't have to concentrate too much on good ends, again, pointy and sharp ends are no good to the children.

Finally....after soaking in a nice hot kiln, and cooling!! take out your Elly, give him a good clean and put him to one side whilst you make lots more. You could add a bow to the ear for a girlie Elly, or a bow tie under the trunk for a boy Elly, have fun, but make lots!



Laney x