

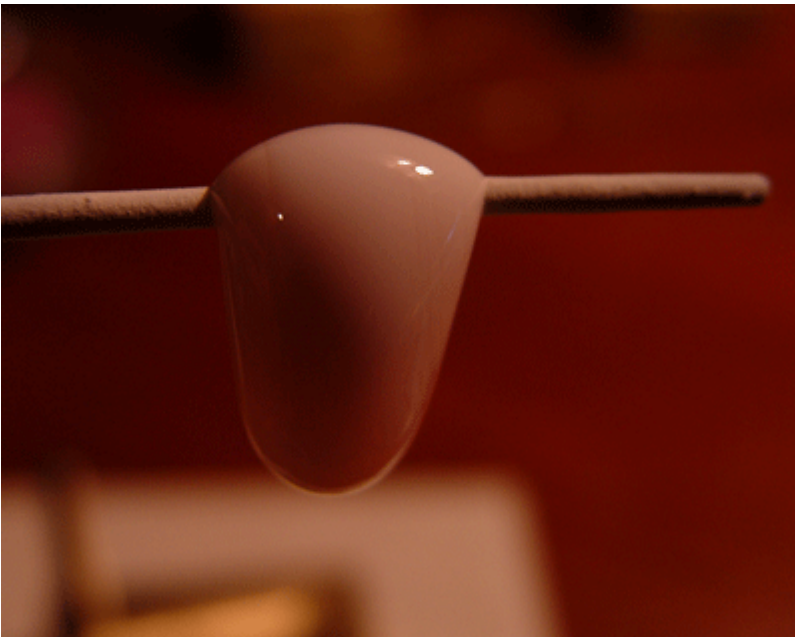
ZooziiLovin' Tutorial

Make a barrel that is slightly more narrow than the bottom of the press is wide.



Add a disk of glass around the middle of the barrel.
You will then melt this and allow it to droop.

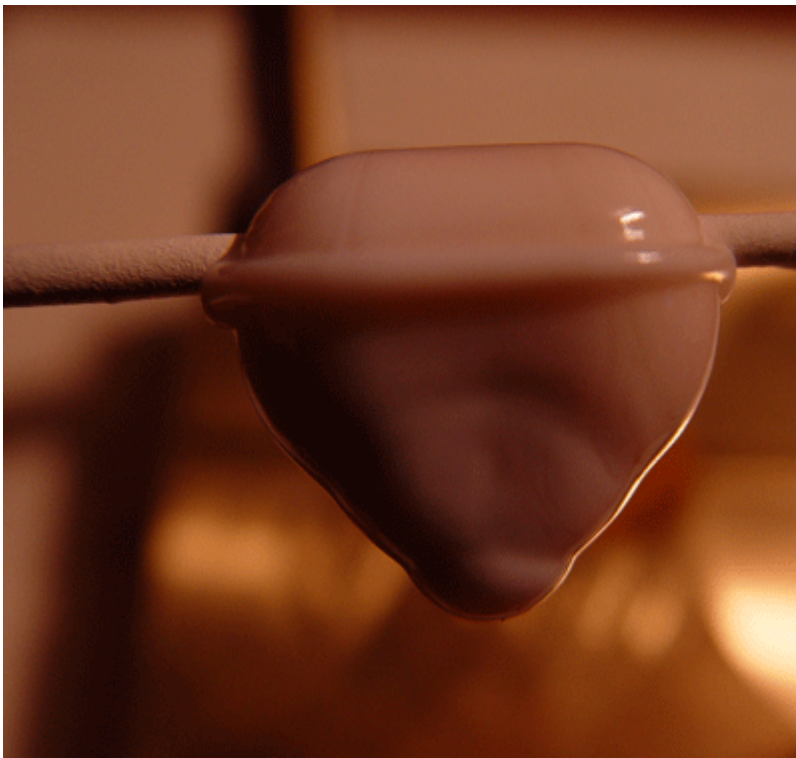
Let the glass droop about the depth of the bottom of the mold.



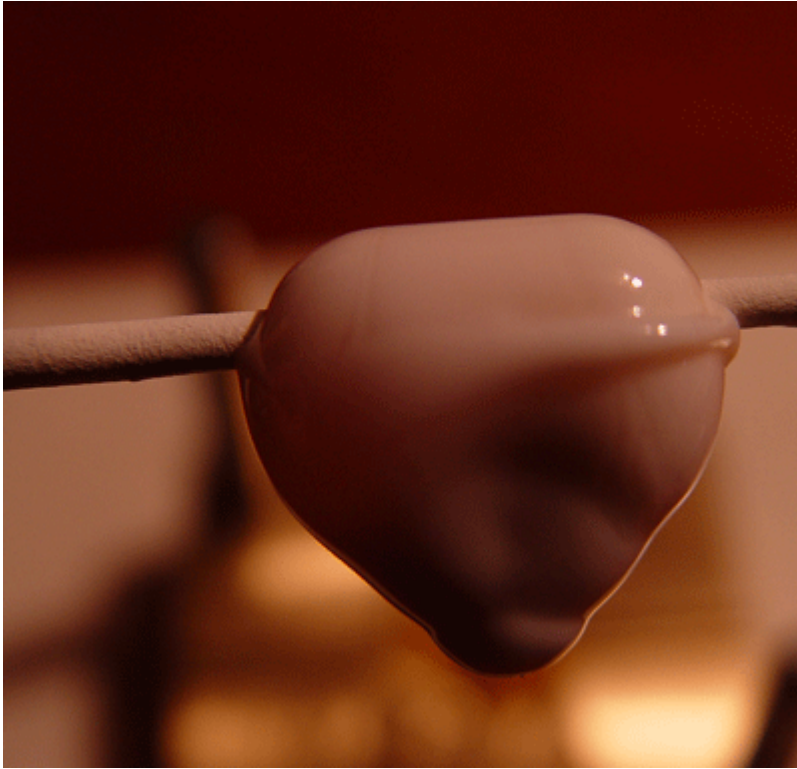
The glob will be thicker than the press is, so you need to flatten it. You can do that with mashers or you can do that by laying it on the edge of the press like below, and then turn it over to do the other side, as in the picture to the right.

Note: While flattening, if you use the method pictured, you are not pressing on the glass with force, you are just laying the glass on the brass. You leave it there for only second, then flip. You want to keep the glob straight, not bent, so it will fit nicely into the press.

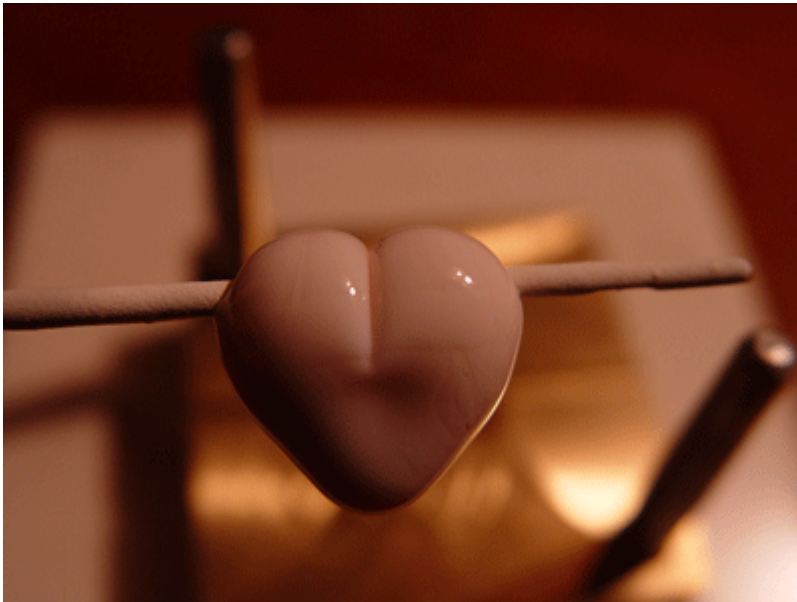
Heat the above glob enough so it will pliable enough to press, but not molten enough to lose its shape. When you remove the heart from the press, you may have a ridge like the one pictured. That means you used too much glass. But it is not a waste. It is actually very easy to fix.



As you can see in the photo, you can heat the ridge and it will sink into the heart. you will also need to fire polish the ridges that formed when you pressed the bottom of the heart. This does not take long, and will allow for a smooth finish on the heart. If you find that you over polish, then you can always repress to get the definition back in the point.



Now you need to make the indent in the top of the heart. This is done by heating the center of the top, wait for a "skin" to form, then use a razor tool to form the indent. I use a rocking motion. I start in the front and rock the razor tool to the back so the line is smooth and continuous. You can use any thin tool you want, but I find the razor to work best for me. You want to let the skin form, because if you don't you will get a more narrow indent, and it will not form the humps as nicely. (I sell the razor tool on my site).





Don't stop there...be creative! You can decorate and stylize your hearts. This gives you an excellent base, but you make the bead special! Jennifer of Foofaraw Beads made the Chocolate hearts...Very creative!



Flame polish.