

# Think Pink - Think Bullseye

By Diane Woodall



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[http://www.etsy.com/shop.php?user\\_id=5183790](http://www.etsy.com/shop.php?user_id=5183790)



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Created by Deb Harlan









Perhaps we beadmakers are just gluttons for punishment, or perhaps we simply have a drive to achieve the impossible, but try as we might it's a big challenge to create a nice set of pink beads using Moretti when Rubino is one uppity diva and the other pinks are as dull as dishwater. The answer is to shelve your Moretti pinks and switch to Bullseye (OK, you can keep your CIM Gelly Sty Pink...it's actually quite yummy and delicious). Bullseye Glass Company produces a mouthwatering spectrum of pink glass that will make you a convert for life.

Bullseye glass has a COE of 90, which means that you shouldn't use it with any other COE, even in small quantities. It is manufactured with such strict quality control standards so that every rod of Bullseye is compatible with every other rod (no compatibility cracks). In my experience with Bullseye pinks I have found them to be almost foolproof and the purest and most vivid pinks available from any manufacturer. This glass does like to be worked in a neutral to oxidizing flame, however it will stand up to more propane than Rubino and strike just by looking at it and asking nicely. (Always talk nicely to your glass and it will love you back).

Bullseye opalescent pinks are not truly opaque and therefore I wouldn't recommend that they be used for melted surface decoration unless you want a blurred edge to the design, but the transparents can be used over French Vanilla, which is a good opaque white for surface designs. Many of the pinks, both opalescent and transparent, are striking colors and therefore must be struck in a flame for the true color to emerge. When I receive my rods I flame strike each of my transparent rods before storing them in my glass cabinet (I can tell the opal ones apart just by looking at them). It takes a few seconds to strike each transparent rod and is time well spent.

Because of its lower COE, Bullseye glass is stiffer than Moretti and excellent for sculptural beads such as goddesses, seashells, flowers or animals. The recommended annealing temperature for Bullseye is 960 degrees F. You can see the full range of Bullseye rod colors and read about their characteristics on Bullseye's site. Their "Torchtips" are an excellent guide and can be accessed here: <http://www.bullseye-glass.com/education/torchtips/> cont.....

**The pinks that Bullseye produces in rod form are:**

000301-0576 Pink (opalescent) A nice, medium opal pink. A bluer pink than Salmon Pink.	
000305-0576 Salmon Pink (opalescent) The pink I use for the throats of neutral seashells. More of dark peachy pink.	
000421-0576 Petal Pink (opalescent) A true carnation pink that is slightly translucent. A clean and pure pale pink with no striations when cooled.	
001215-0576 Light Pink Striker (transparent) A beautiful, medium pink transparent.	
001232-0576 Light Fuchsia (transparent) This is yummy! Half-way between pink and purple.	
001311-0576 Cranberry Pink (transparent) A very deep cranberry pink transparent, similar in color to rubino but much less persnickity. It has slight gold undertones, making it a warmer pink than Cranberry Sapphire.	
001342-0576 Cranberry Sapphirine (transparent) Similar to cranberry but with slight blue overtones, making it a cooler color than Cranberry.	
001821-0576 Erbium Pink (transparent) Palest pink transparent, beautiful for encasing.	

The photo below shows some seashells I made using Bullseye pinks and some of their wonderful purples. I'm showing you the purple shells because the ruffled lip is 001232-0576 Light Fuchsia and the throats are 000301-0576 Pink. The first shell is a twistie made from dense white, cranberry and pink. The second shell was made from a special glass Bullseye makes that is salmon and clear in one rod, with a throat of 000305-0576 Salmon Pink. The third shell is a base of 000421-0576 Petal Pink with a throat and dots in 001311-0576 Cranberry Pink and a ruffled edge in dense white. I use dense white versus Bullseye regular white because it doesn't bubble and is much easier to work with.



Next time you are ready to treat yourself to some new glass, give Bullseye a try. Once you experience the clarity and stability of this awesome glass you may find yourself as much of a convert as I am.