

## Lighted Green-winged Macaw Kit



Unlit



Lighted

**I**f you are at least an “intermediate” in stained glass, or even a beginner with ambition, you should have absolutely no difficulty with the construction of this sculpture. The glass fits around the body like a tailored garment; it is only with parts of the head, and then the beak, that you have to be a little more careful in the way you cut and shape the pieces of glass. That is why we left those segments until near the end of the project, when you will have developed some experience in fitting flat glass around the Bodiform’s curves. The Green-winged Macaw is made of 154 pieces of glass, and is 20 inches long.

The nice part about lighting up this sculpture is that all you have to do is follow the pattern (which leaves about a one-inch opening at the bottom), then slip the spring-wing socket inside the opening. The wings spring open and grab onto the sides of the opening, holding the socket firmly. The candelabra socket, with a six-foot cord and thumb switch (along with a candelabra bulb), is *included* in the Kit.

We have made it very easy for you to mount your finished sculpture on any base or pedestal of your choice. We have included in the Kit a 3/16” metal rod, five inches long, that you put through a 1/4” hole in the bottom of the body and solder to the inside top of the body (as well as to the edges of the bottom hole). Included in the Kit are brass finishing washers that you will use inside the top to guide the rod into position, and under the bottom where the rod goes into the

body. If you hold the sculpture with the soldered rod vertical, the sculpture will be at the correct angle for proper display. Simply drill a 7/32" hole vertically in your pedestal, and slide the 3/16" rod into it!

For a natural looking pedestal, we used a 3/4" diameter wood dowel, eighteen inches long, that we placed inside a cholla "skeleton," (see the photos). We drilled a 3/4" hole in an oak base that we obtained from a woodpile, inserted the dowel, and sanded and stained. And of course, we drilled a 7/32" hole in the top of the 3/4" wood dowel in order to insert the 3/16" metal rod.

Macaws come in many different colors. To name a few, there are the Scarlet Macaw, Blue and Gold Macaw, Military Macaw (green), and the Hyacinth Macaw. If you would like to use different colors of glass, you can go to a book about birds, or search Google Images. That way, you will be able to make a distinctive looking stained glass sculpture, unique to you.



Also included in the Kit are real glass eyes. The use of the glass eyes gives your sculpture the finished look, much better than cutting out glass circles or using half marbles as eyes.

Refer to the picture above, and note the soldering technique. We apply a lot of solder, and add solder "gems" in certain places, in order to cover over discrepancies in the construction. During the initial preparation, we put on a light coat of solder, mostly meant to hold the pieces together. When we are satisfied that everything fits well, we go over the entire surface with another coat of solder. The second coat of solder helps hide irregularities, like a space that shows while assembling segments; a corner of one piece of glass that is higher than the adjacent piece of glass; the solder that runs downhill and gathers in one spot because the soldering area was not horizontal; and the air bubbles that sometimes form. Washed well and polished up, this soldering technique makes all the sculptures look even more beautiful than normal soldering would.

The Green-winged Macaw Kit comes with:

- ❖ A urethane *Bodiform*© with every seam line carved in.
- ❖ Four full color self-adhesive Template Sheets.
- ❖ Four full color Pattern Sheet.
- ❖ 10-page completely illustrated Instruction Manual.
- ❖ Our exclusive *Stained Glass Secrets* informational booklet.
- ❖ One pair of glass eyes.
- ❖ One candelabra socket and cord set, with bulb.
- ❖ 3/16" metal rod.
- ❖ Two brass finishing washers.

**The Kit does NOT contain glass, solder, copper foil, or flux.**