Colour Combinations:

Glass, iridescent, millefiori, mirror glass, river glass (vitreous glass) and glass pebbles

What You Need:

Equipment:
1. Butterfly base measuring:
   (50.5x27.9cm = 20x11 inches)
2. Glass tile cutter (wheeled nippers)
3. Container for mixing your grout
4. Cloth and sponge for wiping off the grout
5. Latex gloves for grouting
6. Carbon paper and pencil for tracing the pattern onto the container.
7. Old paintbrush to use to coat the tiles with glue.
8. Paintbrush for painting on underside

Materials:
1. Wood varnish if you do not want to paint the back.
2. Glass tiles (2.5cm x 2.5cm = 1 inch)
   - 130 tiles
   - miniature grey tiles 12 tiles
   - Iridescent tiles (1.5cmx1.5cm = 0.6x0.6 inches)
   - 20 tiles
   - 50 tiles
   - 55 tiles
   - 26 tiles
   - 12 tiles
   - Millefiori
   - 10 millefiori
   - Mirror glass
   - 30 tiles (2cmx2cm = 0.79 inches)
   - Glass pebbles
   - 2
   - Vitreous (river glass) tiles (2cm x 2cm = 3/4inches x 3/4inches)
   - 20 tiles
   - 8 tiles
   - 8 tiles
3. Wood glue / WeldBond
4. Light grey grout or white grout with light grey acrylic paint.
5. White PVA paint and a form of glazecoat
How To:

1. Using carbon paper, trace your pattern onto the butterfly base, go over it with pencil. Stick down your millefiori.

2. Cut your dark blue tiles into quarters with your wheeled nippers and stick them down following the curve. Remember to shape them.

3. Once you’ve done the outside curve, cut your blue iridescent tiles into halves and shape them to lie around the curve.

4. Follow the first curve as you can see above.

5. Then create the second curve.

6. Finish your dark blue line. Note, when I get close to the edge, I cut my edge tile first and then the missing piece. This way, I can cut a big enough piece so that the tile will not fall off later on.

7. Here is a picture of what your curves should look like.

8. You will see in the pattern that the triangles are long and thin. I create them by cutting a tile into half (so that it is a rectangle). I then cut it diagonally and as you can see in the next picture diagonally again.

9. This will create a “long thin” triangle.
How To:

10. Stick your triangles close to the edges of your blue curves.

11. For the petals, I cut the full tile at a slight angle.

12. Flip the tile around and cut another angle. Then nibble the edges to create the soft petal effect.

13. The trick here is to cut all of your petals first. Lay them down so that you can see whether they fit and if you need to nip some of the edges you can.

14. For the orange curvy section, cut your tiles in half so that they are rectangles. Lay the bottom of the tile to line up with one of the lines - then cut the tile at an angle to fit.

15. This photo shows the line of the curve that I was following. Remember - keep the space to denote the wings (at the top left side of the picture)

16. Cut one of your dark blue tiles into a circle (or use a small glass pebble and stick down). If you cut a circle, cut the edges off first then nibble around.

17. Cut your yellow tiles into halves and stick them down as you did with the blue iridescent tiles. Stick your large blue pebble down.

17. Cut your mirror glass tiles into eighths and lay them down following the curve. Remember to shape them.
How To:

19. Follow the same process with quarter tiles as you did with the white tiles to create the small flowers.

20. Cut the green iridescent tiles from a full tile using the same process as you did with the yellow and orange tiles.

21. Cut your brown tiles into quarters. Lay one tile down and follow the lines. Shape your tiles by cutting them at angles to go around the curves.

22. Fill in the centre section of the butterfly’s body.

23. Cut the grey tiles into sixths (small rectangles) and lay them following the curve. Do not forget to shape them.

24. Cut your white tiles into eights and lay them to follow the curves of the other pieces.

25. Once you have stuck tiles following the curve, fill in the inside section.

26. Top wing done!

27. Almost finished. Work methodically and don’t lose your patience (it will be worth the effort, I promise!)
28. All tiled, and ready to grout. Let your piece dry for at least 12 hours if not 24.

29. Because I used white glass tiles, I didn’t really want to use white grout - so I took some grey acrylic paint and mixed it in with the white grout. It makes a “very” light grey grout that is perfect for the butterfly.

30. Mix to the consistency of thick peanut butter and make sure that there are no lumps. I use a wooden tongue depressor to mix and spread my grout.

31. Spread your grout on and then use your fingers to make sure that you have got it into every nook and cranny.

32. Take a little grout and spread it around the edges, making sure that it gets in between the tiles.

33. Once it has developed a “haze” you can start wiping it off with kitchen towels.

34. Use a soft cloth to buff up and remove excess grout from the sides.

35. Paint a couple of layers of white pva paint on the sides and seal the sides with a little varnish to finish off the piece.