



de Gournay

PHOENIX DINNER SERVICE

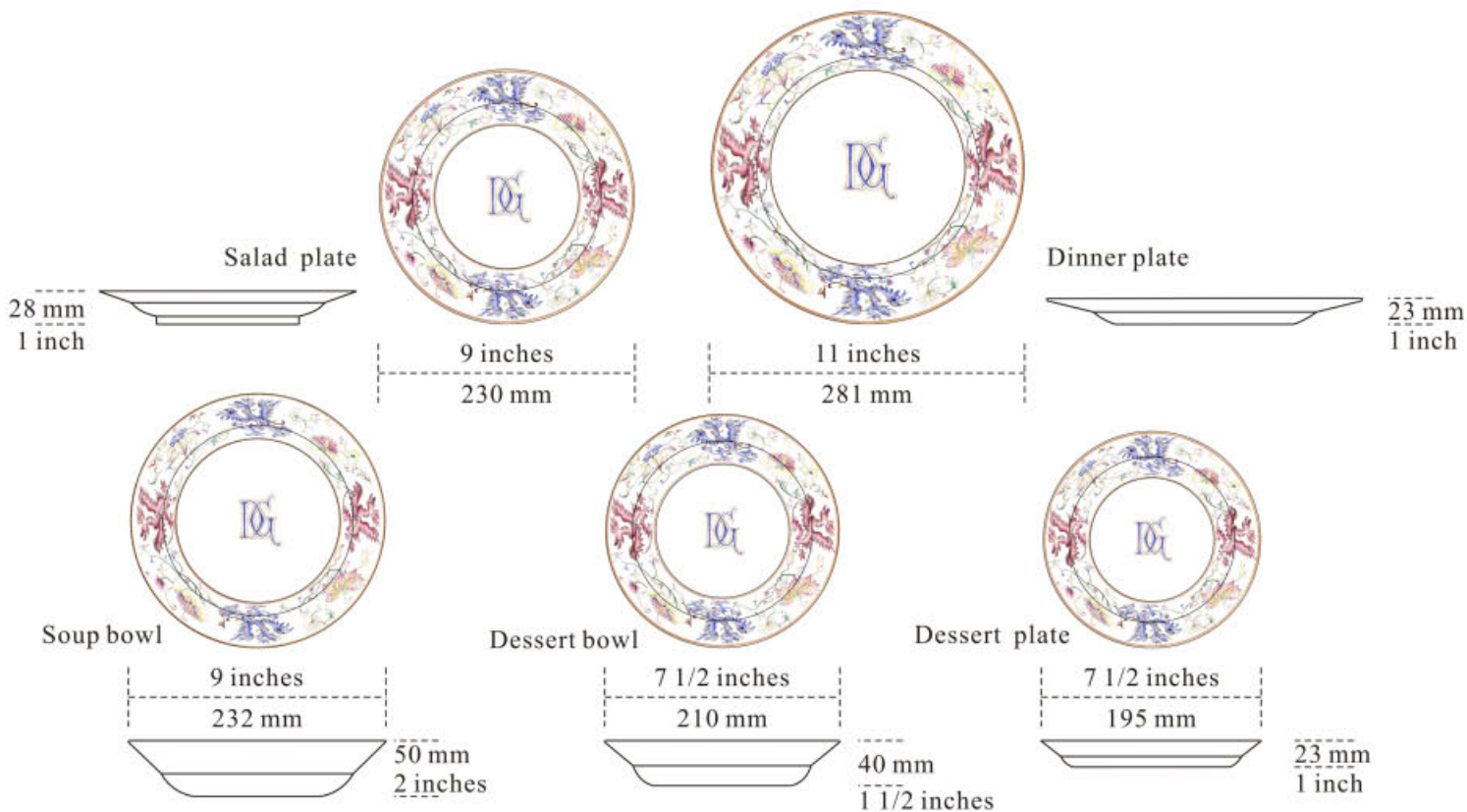
FINE HAND PAINTED
HAND THROWN PORCELAIN

ORDERING A PHOENIX DINNER SERVICE

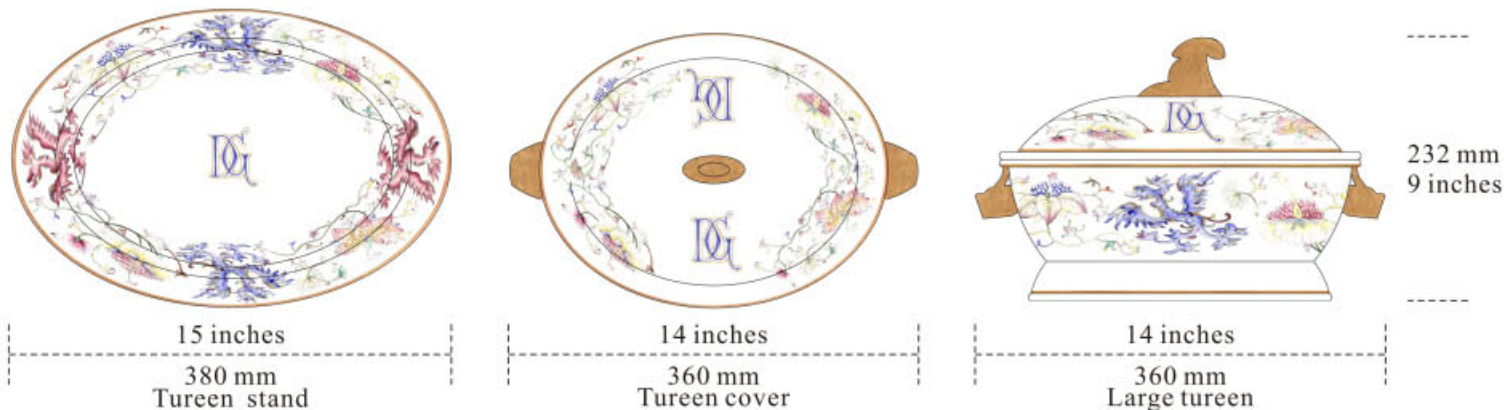
Each de Gournay service is entirely made and decorated by hand using centuries old traditional Oriental porcelain making techniques. Every piece in a service may be considered a work of art while the service viewed as a whole is a unique and all too rare expression of an ancient craft that has survived almost unchanged into the 21st Century and is in danger of being lost forever. Porcelain is very strong and plenty able to withstand the rigors of everyday use while de Gournay use only contemporary dishwasher safe enamels ensuring the product is as practical as it is beautiful.

Stylised phoenix birds floating on outstretched wings amongst scrolling hibiscus stems are colourfully depicted in pinks, powder blue, lime green and imperial yellow in de Gournay's Phoenix design. The pattern is inspired by an original model bearing marks placing it in the Hall for the Cultivation of Virtue built within the Old Summer Palace for the Daoguang emperor and dating from the first half of the 19th century. In the language of Chinese mythology the phoenix symbolises the highest virtue, grace, power and prosperity.

At the first stage in the order process, de Gournay prepare scale colour design drawings of each porcelain piece being ordered to demonstrate the location of pattern on that shape and to show the effect of any design changes specified. These drawings are sent to the client for comment and if necessary then reworked and represented until approved for production. A typical set of design drawings is illustrated below for one place setting featuring our large dinner plate, salad plate, soup bowl, dessert bowl and side plate. Typical custom changes would be adjustments to the rim colours, omissions of part of the design and the incorporation of armorial, monograms or personalised motifs in the centre.



The client can choose between two different types of plate shape (round and octagonal) and from a wide range of ancillary items in a variety of sizes, including a chocolate pot, tea pot, cream jug, sugar bowl, mugs, tea & espresso cups, serving tureens, punch bowls, wine coolers, sauce boats and many more. For a document on the full range please enquire. The pattern is fitted to and can be customised on any of these shapes in exactly the same way as described above for the flatware as the following tureen drawing demonstrates.



Once the design of your service is approved and your order placed, de Gournay will produce as many sample pieces as required to approve custom colour changes, specific colour requests, the glaze colour and the finish chosen before starting work on crafting the service itself. de Gournay's expertise allows clients to specify a range of finish options to achieve either a contemporary or a convincing antique feel or any option between these two. A typical service might take 16 weeks to decorate once the design is agreed upon.