



*de Gournay*

FOND ROUGE DE FER  
DINNER SERVICE



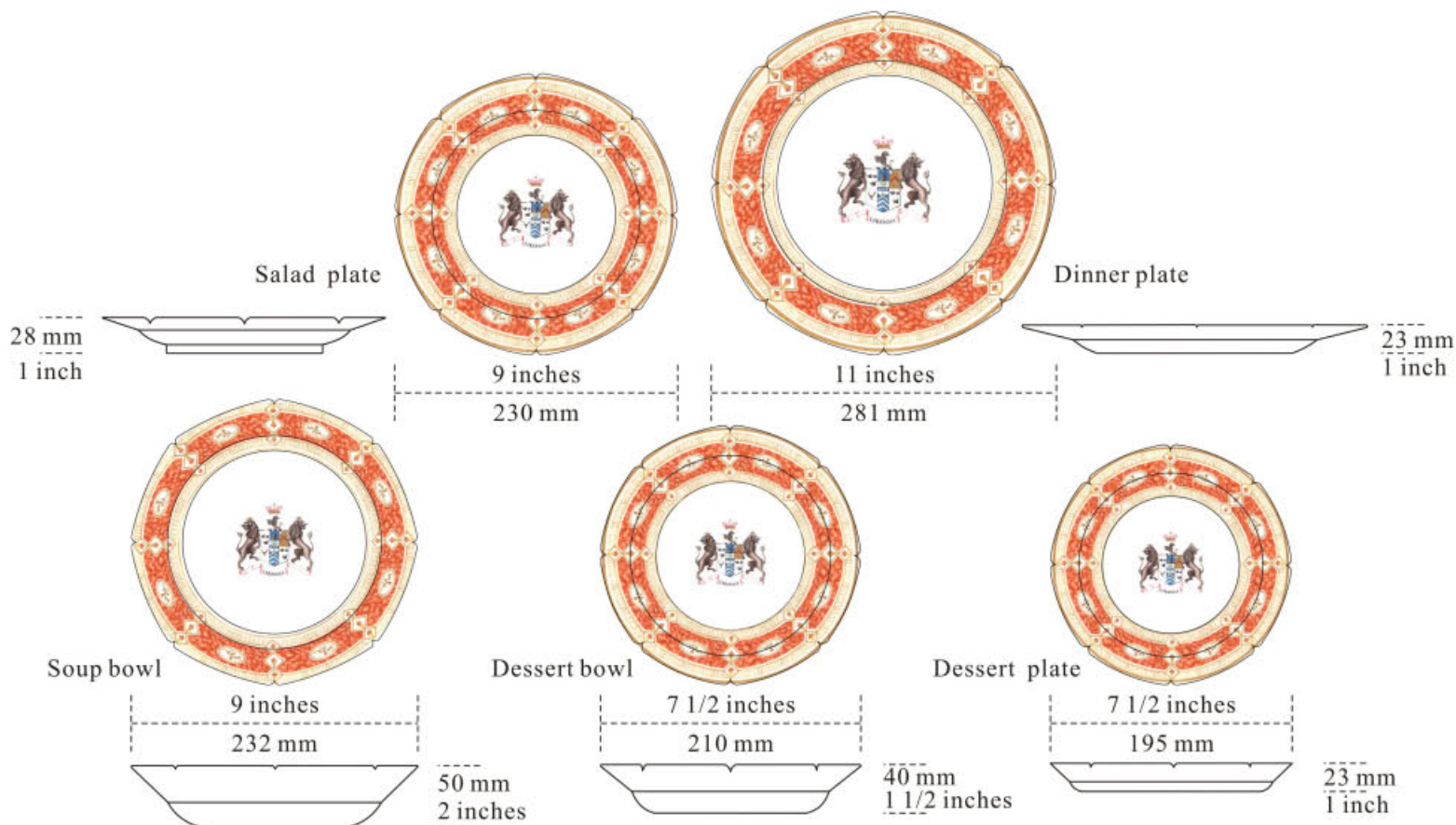
FINE HAND PAINTED  
HAND THROWN PORCELAIN

# ORDERING A FOND ROUGE DE FER DINNER SERVICE

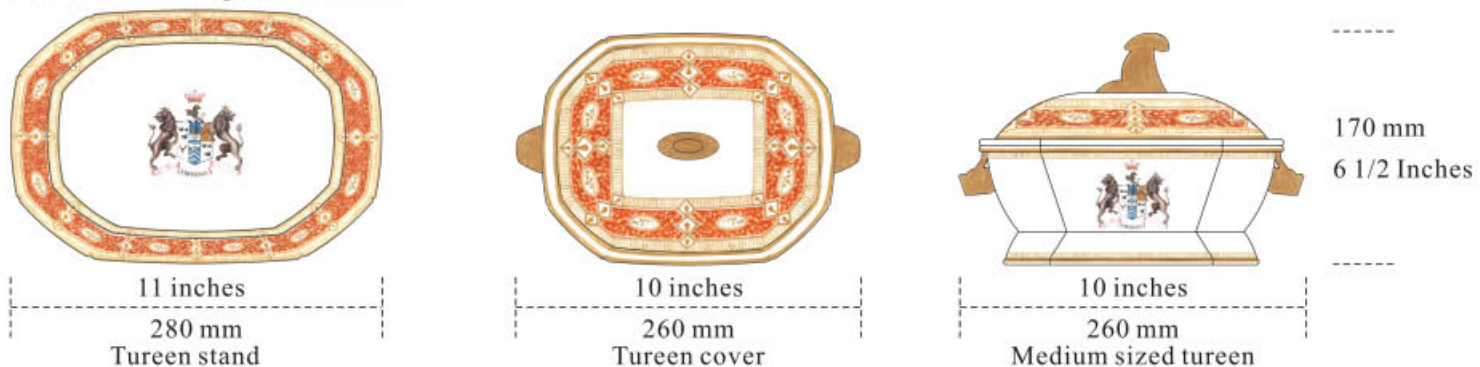
Each de Gournay service is entirely made and decorated by hand using centuries old traditional Oriental porcelain making techniques. Every piece in a service may be considered a work of art while the service viewed as a whole is a unique and all too rare expression of an ancient craft that has survived 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.

The antique Chinese Export model for de Gournay's Fond Rouge de Fer design seems likely to have been a copy of an English Worcester design which it can be conjectured had been sent to the Orient as a sample with instructions to reproduce the pattern and include to the client's coat of arms. There was considerable plagiarism by both the Europeans and Chinese of the others' best selling and finest designs as the demand for porcelain soared through Westerner's insatiable appetite during the century. This pattern is characterised by the striking colour and shape of the border created using iron red enamel and gilt. Many 18th century Chinese Export services were customised to include the client's coats of arms, family crest and mottoes. Today de Gournay's tailoring service offers the same ability to modify the design or the design colours to suit a clients' wishes.

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 featuring our large dinner plate, salad plate, soup bowl, dessert bowl and dessert plate. In this case we have shown a family armorial with the moto Libertas. Other typical changes would be adjustments to the rim colours, omissions of part of the design including on occasion the use of undecorated centers and the incorporation of monograms or personalised motifs.



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 medium sized Tureen and Tureen stand drawings demonstrate.



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.