

Pompadour service comprising of dinner plates, salad plates, dessert plates, side plates, soup bowls and dessert bowls



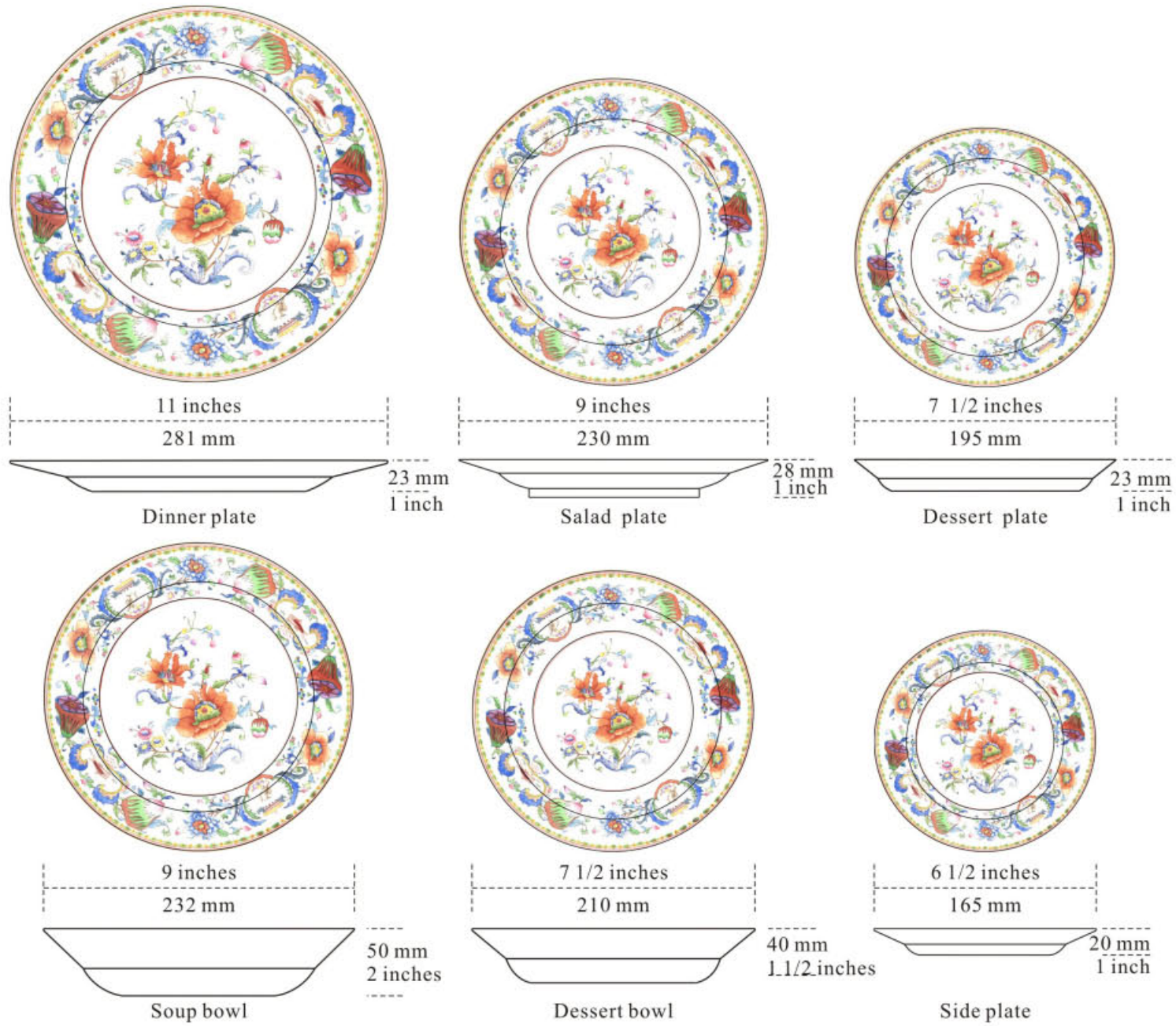
de Gournay
POMPADOUR DINNER SERVICE

FINE HAND PAINTED
HAND THROWN PORCELAIN

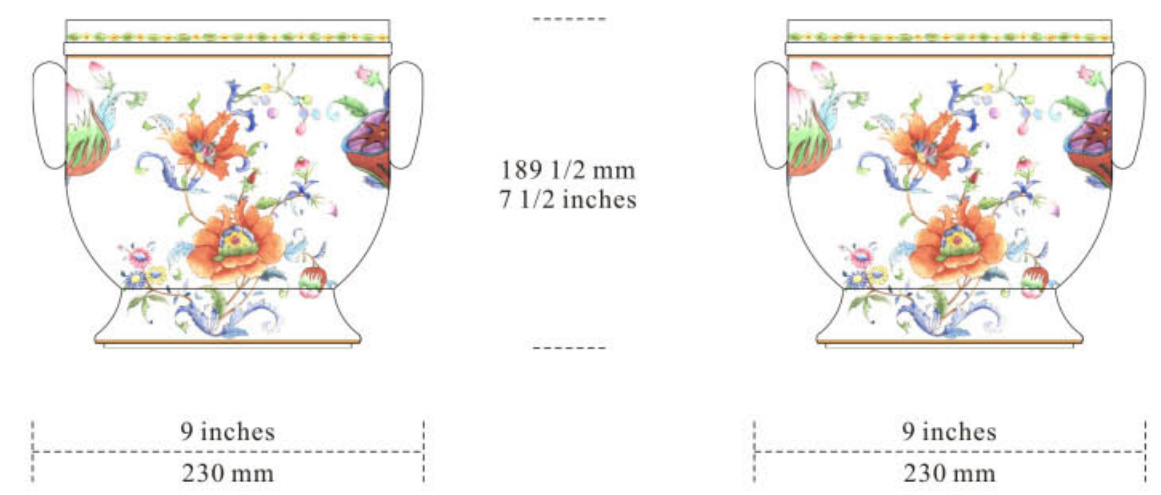
Each de Gournay service is entirely made and decorated by hand using centuries old traditional Oriental porcelain making techniques. Every piece in a service may be considered a work of art while the service viewed as a whole is a unique and all too rare expression of an ancient craft that has survived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

A reproduction of a Qianlong Chinese Export pattern of circa 1745 in a design popularly known as the Pompadour service, richly decorated with a pattern of peonies, leaves and pomegranates using a polychrome Famille Rose palette the four outer rim cartouches containing alternating emblems of an eagle below a stylised crown and a fish. Lore has it that the fish represents Madame de Pompadour the renowned mistress of Louis XV, King of France whose maiden name was Poisson while the eagle and crown represent the king. Whether the design was created to lampoon their relationship which, because of her lowly birth caused much chatter at court and amongst the nobility at the time, or made as a gift for them is unclear. What is certain is that the original service was made for the French market and was of the very highest quality.

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 plate, dessert bowl and side plate. Typical custom 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 armorials 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 large wine cooler drawings demonstrate.



A pair of Wine coolers

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.



Pompadour dessert bowl and plate