

Beginning Stained Glass

The beginning stained glass class lasts for 6 sessions and students will build at least one piece of stained glass during the course, usually two.

The cost of the class is \$150 and the cost of the required student kit is included in your enrollment fee. The kit contains a flux brush, one lb. of solder, one roll of copper foil, a pair of safety glasses, a sharpie pen and an "ugly stick." Please read the "Lead Safety" notice (below) and have fun looking at the Spectrum glass catalog, as well as copies of "The Score" newsletter that are available in our studio.

We encourage students to arrive at class the first night with a stained glass pattern idea in mind so that they can immediately start tracing it, cutting out pattern pieces and cutting glass. Most students elect to build one of the many patterns that we have on hand to get right on with their project.

Classes are held from 7 pm to 9 pm on some weeknights (see the class schedule on line at <http://gommstudios.com/aboutus/classes.htm>)

We expect you to attend on the day of the week you start on, if you need to attend a different class because of scheduling conflicts, please give us a call so we can accommodate you. If these days don't work for you, we'll be happy to set a time up that does.

If you need to miss a class, you may, but please do us the courtesy of calling us to let us know that you won't be coming. Your six week course **must be completed within an eight week time span**, unless you make prior arrangements.

We use student cards to keep track of who is in class and what they are working on. Please fill out your card each time you attend class. You can make a note as to what you did during the class. We would prefer that you pay for additional materials at the time that you use them. If you need additional time to complete a project, you can attend extra classes for \$25 per class block. It's always a good idea to call and ask if there will be room, so we can accommodate you.

Glass Policy

1. We build commercial windows which results in us having quite a bit of scrap glass. Students may use the glass from the scrap bins at no charge with the following restrictions:
 - a) You can take what you need for the evening, but you may not stockpile the scrap, otherwise other students won't have the same good selection that you did.
 - b) If you need a certain quantity of glass for a specific purpose, you may get special permission from the instructor.
2. If a piece of glass is smaller than 1 square foot, we sell it by the piece.

Scrap Glass

Scrap Glass is no charge for students doing their first project.

After your first project, scrap glass is 10 cents per square inch.

Scrap glass may be taken out of the bin at the time you need it, but in an effort to let all students have an equal selection of glass, we ask that you only take what you need at the time.

Storage Of Projects

You can store your project with us in the racks and the following policies apply:

1. We only have room for you to store one project at a time. **Write your name and phone number on your project** so we can contact you before discarding a project left too long.
2. You can store what glass you have for the project on the board you are building your project, but we don't have room to let you store your private collection of glass scraps.
3. One month is the limit for storage of any inactive projects, if you are coming and working each week, no problem. If you haven't been to the studio for a month, we'll try to contact you, but we can't afford the space to store it indefinitely, you'll have to take it home or we'll put it in the scrap bin. **Make sure and mark your project well**, so we can give you a call when we clear things out. If we can't figure out whose project it is,

the glass goes in the scrap bin and any tools go in the rack for student use.

4. You may use one of our boards for a project, but if your piece is unusually large, or we don't have the size you need, you'll have to furnish your own board. Drywall board and plywood work well.
5. Storage of your project is for your convenience, we don't intend to keep track of it, so you'll need to be responsible for your project and if something happens to it, we apologize but we can't be held responsible.
6. Some folks have come back after letting their project sit for a year or more. Occasionally, the project was still there, but if it's been left to sit for more than a month, we often have to make room for other projects. We're not trying to be mean, we just need the space.

GENERAL SHOP SAFETY:

Part of being safe while working with stained glass is to realize some of the hazards of the materials you are working with. There are generally warning and caution labels on those items which pose a danger.

1. A good idea is to wear work clothes in the studio and when you leave the studio, change and launder them separately so that you don't track hazardous materials into your home.
2. Wearing safety glasses is mandatory, glass splinters are very difficult to remove and you don't ever want one in your eye. It's especially important when cutting, grinding, soldering and when someone is working next to you.
3. Wear appropriate clothes, long sleeves are a good idea. No open toe shoes, flip-flops, sandals or bare feet! Shirts should cover you so that glass chips and splinters don't fall down inside other clothing. You're wearing clothes to protect yourself from injury.

LEAD SAFETY:

Lead Safety is important to all who work with stained glass. We want you to know that your window doesn't pose a significant threat as long as you:

1. Don't allow food to come in contact with your stained glass. Don't use a window as a serving tray.

2. Don't give a suncatcher to a baby. The glass may be cute, but you don't want your baby sucking on lead and getting lead into their system.

3. When working with lead, don't eat, smoke or chew gum. And wash your hands well after soldering a window. It's important that as you solder your window, you be aware that lead can be harmful. Many artists (especially painters who worked with lead based paints) got lead poisoning by accidentally putting their brushes or hands to their mouths while painting. The risk to you is minimal unless you devote a lifetime to stained glass work. Being aware of the risk will keep you from rubbing your mouth while working with lead. Some of our students wear a dust mask while soldering to keep from breathing fumes as they solder. This isn't mandatory but it does keep you from putting your hands to your mouth. After soldering or polishing a project make sure to wash your hands and face well, two times. This will reduce your risk.

"Lead soldering usually does not represent an inhalation risk since controlling temperature of lead below 900 °F (melting temperature = 621 °F) is effective in controlling lead fuming."

From www.osha-slc.gov/SLTC/Lead/index.html

"Occupational exposure to lead is dependent not only upon the concentrations of lead in workplace air but also upon the personal hygiene and personal habits of the worker." "The lead hazard is particularly acute in small companies/operations, often employing no more than three or four workers, engaged in radiator repair, leaded or stained glass production, laboratories, or ceramics." (ACGIH)