

Glass Etching Guidelines

Age Groups:

Beginner: Ages 7-11

Junior: Ages 12-15

Senior: 16-19

Notes:

- No licensed or copywrite characters.
- Only one exhibited allowed per year.
- Exhibitors are expected to increase skill level and difficulty with each progressive year in the project.
- **Remember that once the etching cream is applied, it is permanent and no way to remove it.**
- If your project is a mirror or glass, it must be framed (unless it already has decorative edges) and ready to hang.

You will need:

- Mirror, plate, bowl, glass, mug, etc. (Anything with a clear, smooth surface. Do not try to use colored glass.)
- **Glass or mirror cannot be larger than 14x22"** (poster size).
- Glass etching cream (i.e., Armor Etch) which can be purchased at most craft stores.
- White contact paper.
- Fresh sheet(s) of carbon paper.
- Sharp x-acto knife (extra blades are also a good idea).
- Any picture that is not offensive in any way (**no photographs**).
- Roll of paper towels.
- Glass cleaner.
- Paint brush (no larger than a size 12, and must be new, never used).
- Sharp #2 pencil

Process:

- Clean the item with glass cleaner and paper towel.
- Cover item that will be etched with the white contact paper.
- Tape down a piece of carbon paper where picture will be placed.
- Trace picture with pencil.
- Remove picture and carbon paper from the contact paper very carefully.
- Carefully, cut along the lines of the picture **ONLY WHERE THE PICTURE WILL BE ETCHED**.
- Carefully pull off all cut pieces.
- Apply etching cream with paint brush very evenly. Be sure to cover all cut out areas. Allow cream to stand for 10-20 minutes depending on the size of project.
- After the cream has set for the appropriate amount of time, you can remove as much of the cream with the paint brush and put it back into the bottle. (This will save on how much you go through, as the etching cream is quite expensive.)
- Place picture under warm (not hot) running water to remove the etching cream, wiping with paper towel to make sure all cream is removed.
- At first project will look like nothing has been etched, but once it dries the design will show.
- Pull off all remaining contact paper, clean project with glass cleaner and paper towel.