



Course title: 2 Day Beads from Broken Bottles.

Course venue: 29 Boundary Close, Swindon, SN2 7TF

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On this 2 day course, learn how to make and decorate glass beads and then try your hand at using recycled glass – from bottles and window glass –very satisfying in terms of using stuff you would only otherwise throw away! Please note that we shall be using a propane /oxygen torch (as we do for all the other courses). The course is not designed for those who are thinking of using a Hot Head torch because bottle glass is too stiff; take a look at my standard course instead.

On the first day you will learn to make beads from glass rod, using the stiffer glass made by Plowden & Thompson. On day 2 you can try your hand at making beads from glass bottles.

Each day runs from 10 am to 5 pm with a break for lunch about 1 pm.

Day 1

Health and safety issues

Lighting the torch

Getting the feel of molten glass and pulling stringers

First beads

Decorating with frit

Decorating with dots

Lunch

More stringer pulling

Decorating beads with coloured stringer and raking it

Deforming the glass with tools

Using stringer and dots to give surface texture

Day 2

Taking yesterday's beads from the mandrels, cleaning the holes and tidying up the ends

Preparing various kinds of scrap glass for working at the torch and trying several methods of working to make some simple small beads

Using Pixie Dust to give at least 2 finishes

Lunch

Decorating beads with enamels (masks must be worn)

Using more than one colour of enamel on one bead

Deforming the bead surface using tools
Incorporating stringer work

Using silver leaf with bottle glass

Note: Whist every effort is made to cover all topics, this may not occur due varying rates of student working.