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Make Yours Distinctive Glassware

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Imagine yourself as the perfect hostess, presiding over a dinner or buffet luncheon. You have a variety of all the tableware you want, and the choice is yours. What would you choose? But in real life that choice isn't so simple when you must limit yourself to one pattern.

Whether you're a bride-to-be or merely a person who appreciates a lovely table setting, you'll note the distinction glassware can give to your table. Perhaps you've been eyeing the many varieties of glassware on the market, wondering what you should choose for your future home. Do you want plain or fancy crystal, colored or clear glass? That's all up to your individual tastes, but you'll have to know something about glassware in order to make a wise choice.

There are two basic kinds of handmade glassware—blown and pressed. Blown glassware, used for table stemware, is made by blowing molten glass through a hollow pipe until a bubble takes the shape that is desired. Then a stem and foot are added. Pressing is the process used in making plates, bowls, candelabra and other heavy pieces. This is done by pouring molten glass into a mold and pressing the mold closed until the glass has partially hardened.

**Pressed Glass**

The best quality handmade stemware is blown. Pressed glass has its place in more informal use. It is less expensive and stands hard wear. Some of the table glassware sold is quite plain. You may prefer its simple shape and sparkling clarity to decorated glassware since these two characteristics make the glass beautiful in itself. There are four main ways of ornamenting glassware after it has been shaped and finished—carving, etching, cutting and hand coloring.

Carved glass is made by masking out all parts of the glass except those which are to receive the design. This is how some glassware gets that smooth, frosty design. By means of compressed air, an abrasive is blown against the uncovered glass until it gradually erodes.

Etched glass is another hand process. All portions of the glass except the design itself are coated with a waxy material. The piece is then dipped into an acid bath which etches the unwaxed lines that make up the

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Warm days are here to stay so you'll want to dress for cool comfort. We have the newest spring styles in stripes, prints and plain in all sizes.

**Glassware**
(Continued from page 3)

When you're looking for etched glass, examine it carefully to see that the most delicate detail is clear and distinct. You should also watch for acid spot flaws.

What about colored glassware? This is a question many young women ask themselves. Color brings out variety and distinction to many settings. If a certain color harmonizes particularly well with your china or furniture, select a color. It isn't a good idea to choose a certain hue just because it happens to be your favorite. Inexpensive colored glass in good taste is more difficult to find than low-cost clear glassware, so watch your step in your decision.

Now that you are familiar with some of the processes of glass-making, you'll want to know how to choose your own pattern. There are several things you must consider. First, you want the best quality for your money. Some of the more expensive glasswares may not be so practical for your first three-room apartment. Remember—fads are expensive. You may get variety later on by adding new, popular styles to your basic pattern. If you're looking for a complete set, pick something that you won't tire of.

**Buying Rules**

The first rule of buying glassware is to buy at a reputable store and to purchase a well-known brand. However, even good stores carry various grades of glass, and branded glassware is of varying types of quality. To distinguish between the different kinds of glassware, you should put it to some general tests.

**LOOK:** Hold the glass against a white background and look for clarity and luster. Good quality glassware is sparkling clear, while inferior grades have a cloudy, bluish tinge. However, no glassware is entirely free from waves and specks. Good glassware also has a lustrous permanent polish which comes from repeated firings. In colored glass, you should look for radiant colors. No amount of decoration will cover muddy spots.

**FEEL:** The edges of glassware should be smooth and regular. Be sure to examine the shape of symmetry. Look for graceful crystal, and avoid the fantastic. Consider the proportions, for stemware is sometimes top-heavy.

**LISTEN:** Crystalware has a characteristic bell-like ring. Hold the stemware by the foot and tap.

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We prepare snacks the way you like them best.

**BLUE and WHITE**

"Around the corner from the College Savings Bank"
the knuckle or flick with your fingernail. Good blown glass will have a musical ring. Although pressed glass lacks this tone, it doesn’t mean it’s less desirable.

Maybe you’ve heard some women make a fuss because they can’t replace their china or glassware. Take a lesson from these women and see that your choice of pattern is open stock not just a fad that a manufacturer intends to keep current for a few years.

Your glassware should be suitable for its purpose. Few people set truly formal tables. Most of the entertainment you’ll be doing will probably call for semi-formal settings. For informal occasions you’ll want a serviceable and unpretentious pattern. A dainty, luxurious pattern with tall stems is better for more formal events. Appropriately designed tumblers will serve for every meal and can be used for all except the most formal dinners.

Glass Plates

Glass plates are also useful. They make attractive bread and butter, salad or dessert plates and are also good for light breakfast dishes. Glass cups and saucers, particularly durable as well as pretty, are suitable for breakfast, lunch and even dinner. They add a nice touch of sparkle to your afternoon teas and bridges.

Your china and glassware don’t have to match. In fact, monotony should be avoided, but china, silverware and glassware should harmonize in decorative motif. With floral design dinnerware or ornate silver, a delicately etched glassware blends nicely; simple furniture calls for more sturdy crystal—maybe cut glass; for a modern room, you’ll want quite plain crystal, and stately, formal crystal goes with formal china.

China - Sterling - Crystal for the Bride

For China—
- LENOX
- FRANCISCAN
- SYRACUSE
- WINFIELD
- SPODE
- WEDGEWOOD

WATSON STERLING

For Crystal—
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- CAMBRIDGE
- SENECA
- SWEDISH
- FINNISH

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