



LAMBERT



Glass

Glass is a magical material. It embraces its contents without blending with them. Form and function are united. Glass stimulates the imagination; its manufacture thus became one of the most innovative forms of handcrafting: all the glass workers giving shape to the shapeless, the glassblower's pipe diving into the glow and then blowing a ball from a drop of glass, before being put into the mould to be blown again, turned and opened. All this happens in a matter of seconds and with high precision,

for there is only a short moment before the liquid glass solidifies. This is what the glassblowers do all day long. Not every mouth-blown object, no matter if drinking glasses, vases or storm lanterns, achieves its goal, because within the scope of this sophisticated method of permanent alternating blowing, shaping, turning, cutting, raising the glassblower's pipe to their mouths and tearing, time and expert skills play a decisive role.



liquid glass is taken out



permanent turning and blowing



liquid glass is blown into a wooden mould



glasses coming out of the kiln

Transformation

Take approx. 60% sand, 18% soda, 15% lime, 6-7% feldspar as well as some more components depending on the desired kind of glass and colour, and melt this blend at a temperature of approx. 1,500 °C. The resulting lava-like, glowing mass is glass. In a traditional glass workshop based in southern Europe, there is a group of six master craftsmen blowing and shaping approx. 500 to 600 glasses for Lambert a day. For many centuries glass objects had been shaped by skilled blowers - a tradition which is continued in the Lambert glass collection.



LAMBERT

All drinking glasses, vases and objects featuring in the Lambert collection are ***mouth-blown*** exclusively. By this method a lump or "glob" of glass is taken from the melting pot on an iron blowpipe and formed by blowing. The shape is then achieved manually by exploiting the force of gravity, i.e. by turning, rolling and swinging. Alternatively it can be formed in a two-part cast iron or wooden mould into which the molten glass is blown.

Industrial glasses involve less artistic skill. They are machine-pressed into the mould and are thus always identical in shape. This production method is evidenced by a joint on the stem or the base.

Finish

Glass cutting is the most intricate form of glass finishing. For this purpose the engraver holds the glass against a rotating grinding wheel that must be constantly cooled by water. For surface grinding the glass object must first be ground in a single pass on a coarse sandstone disk. It takes six to twelve passes to form a single facet.

Now the surface must be polished with a finer stone. This gives rise to different patterns: from engraved lines to angular and knife-edge cuts. Finer ornamentation such as circular lentoid cuts or floral patterns are engraved with a diamond head.

Glass cutters need a good sense of proportion and a steady hand. They must have the pattern in their minds. Some grease pencil marks constitute their only orientation. It is their sense of dimension and proportion alone that is decisive for the transformation of blank glass objects into glasses full of character and for the effect caused by fracture of light in the finished glass body.



LAMBERT

In the Lambert collection we offer the following glass qualities:

Bistro Glass



For almost forty years bistro glass has been one of Lambert's most sought-after products. With their unrefined and robust, slightly rustic look - imperfect in the true sense of the word - these unassuming, thick-walled glasses serve their purpose in many households today.

Connoisseurs appreciate the character of

genuine handcrafting: minor dimensional variations as well as bubbles and streaks typical of a traditional glass body.

Bistro glass enthusiasts know that the charm of these unique Lambert pieces is partly to be found in their irregularity. Following a method that has already been practised a hundred years ago, traditional bistro glass is blown in a wooden mould, before the rim is cut off with the help of scissors and then fire-polished. Please note: Bistro glass is not dishwasher-safe.

Clear Glass



Alchemia is solid, handcrafted glass for the modern dinner table and kitchen setting. The unassuming shapes call for the glassblowers' expert skills. Footed bowls, platters and domes are made of a single glass body blown in a wooden mould. To get a plane surface, a circle-shaped bubble is cut open and smoothed by using wooden tools. The handle is

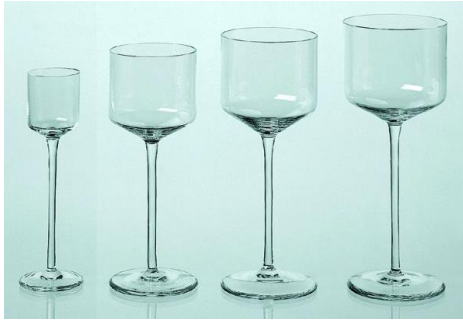
torn out of the glowing glass, a process which calls for special artistic skills and which is evidenced by the slight hollow in the surface.

Clear glass is dishwasher-recommended.



LAMBERT

Crystal



The name crystal refers to a material which was once mined for manufacturing glass rock crystal. Like the quartz sand almost exclusively used today, it mainly consists of silicic acid. Due to the high potassium and lead oxide content, light is refracted in this pure, colourless type of glass in the same way as in a crystal.

The EU has since established standards: crystal must have an oxide content of at least 10%. Extreme caution must be exercised when washing crystal in a dishwasher.

Lead Crystal



Lead crystal, traditionally the heaviest and most precious type of glass, has a lead content of more than 24 %. It is particularly suited for cutting and has the most beautiful ring. The manufacturing process has been proved to be pollution-free. Lead is present in a dissolved form

in lead oxide. As a constituent part of the mass, however, this heavy metal cannot be released during use. Extreme caution must be exercised when washing lead crystal in a dishwasher.

Double-coated Glass



Almost all of our vases are double-coated glass, which means a second coloured coating, and then a layer of clear crystal is applied onto a grey-white inside coat.

In addition, some vases have melted metal oxide or dust inclusions. For this purpose the lump of glass is turned in



LAMBERT

these additives before blowing. This leads to exciting colour patterns, tints and streaks in the glass, which are never the same on any two pieces and which solidify or evaporate at particular points. Therefore each Lambert vase is a mouth-blown one-off piece.

Care and Handling

Glass is a smooth material and its surface has a completely sealed appearance. Its molecular structure is nevertheless unable to prevent deposits of lime and other substances from occurring. This white coating can be avoided by handling glasses carefully. Care should be taken when using a dishwasher: use less detergent, avoid high temperatures and hard water, set the short rinse cycle. Glasses should be placed in the top basket, where the water pressure is lowest, and they should not be touching one another. Tarnished glasses can be cleaned with vinegar essence. It goes without saying that glass with silver applications is only to be washed by hand.