

Blenko Art Glass

Established 1921

Blenko began production in West Virginia in 1921. It is still in business today and is popular for both its old and new art glass.



Blenko's mid-century glass reflects the taste of the ultra mod of yesteryear. Most of its art glass is hand blown and or hand tooled, very colorful and large in size. Blenko glass is almost always heavy. Blenko colors are vivid and the glass usually has bubbles, lines resembling stained glass.



A certain type pontil mark is found on hand blown items that can help identify Blenko glass that doesn't have an acid etch or has lost its label. The pontil style is described as "Soft" and resembles a "dollop". Some items bear the Blenko "Sand Blast" signature and were produced for only 4 years, 1958 through 1961. The acid etch signature testifies to an objects rarity. A white label was used on certain limited lines in the 50s and 60s also. A foil "hand" label was used for many years, mid 1930s to early 80s. Through the 80's and 90's, a square label depicting a stylized glass blower, called the "Block B", was used. Today, Blenko items carry a modern clear adhesive label with a silver hand in the center and some new items are sand blasted with the logo, year and designer's name.



Blenko specializes in "Giant" pieces of art glass. Giants measure from 17 inches to 3 feet tall. Blenko also produced "miniatures" of the Giants, but their miniatures are larger than most.

Collectors crave the Giants, which are hard to find due to the low survival rate of these immense glass art mid-century creations.

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