

Glass Cutting Troubleshooting...

✚ I can't see the score on the glass.

You have probably not exerted enough pressure when scoring the glass. You should be able to see a faint line where the score is.

✚ My cutter keeps falling off the edge of the glass when I am trying to start the score.

Try using the fingernail of your other hand to rest the cutter head up against. Note that your score can start 1-2mm from the edge of the glass.

✚ When I score using the ruler or 'L' square the score line appears very heavy, but the glass does not want to break.

You maybe twisting the cutter, or leaning it out from the ruler. First make sure you are pulling the cutter back towards yourself. Then make sure that the cutter is 'flush' up against the ruler. There should be no gap between the silver head and the ruler. The wheel is shaped like a 'V' and it must travel straight as you score.

✚ When I try to break a strip, the glass runs off to the edge partway up the strip.

This is because the score is uneven or the cutter is not straight. Refer to the above answer and also check that you have exerted an even un-stopping motion from start to finish.

✚ I keep getting a little lump on the edge of the glass where my grozing pliers have gripped.

This is due to the fact that your pliers are too far from the beginning or end of the score. Have your pliers close to the start (or end) of your score and make sure your other hand is gripping the glass exactly opposite. Refer to photos of grozing pliers in use.

✚ My grozers seem to be 'crunching' the glass.

You are most probably gripping too hard with your grozers.

✚ When I get to the end of my score and the cutter falls off the glass onto the carpet, I get a chip on the edge of the glass.

Try slowing down your scoring action – you do not have to race to the edge of the glass.

✚ The cutter isn't running smoothly over the glass.

Check to make sure you are cutting on the smoothest side of the glass. *Hint: it is often easier to feel the smoothest side. If the sides don't feel any different from each other, cut on the shiniest side.*

✚ When I break out curved pieces, I get 'chips' or a 'shell' partway around the curve.

Try the 2-part breaking motion with your grozing pliers. 'Run' the score from the start until it wants to stop – do not force it. Then change to the overhand grip and 'run' the score back to meet the point at which it stopped. Refer to "Cutting Shapes (appliqué)". *Note: It is almost always necessary to use a 2-part breaking motion when cutting curves.*

✚ I feel like I need a lot of practice at Glass Cutting. What type of glass should I practice with.

Use 3mm clear float glass. This is the glass that is included in the kit for you to practice with.

✚ On some types of glass I do not seem to be able to hear the score.

You will not be able to hear the score on all glass, but on most glasses you should be able to. Use the sound as a guide to let you know if you are exerting even pressure. *Hint: Practicing on 3mm clear float glass is a good way to perfect the score sound, as you should always achieve the sound on this glass.*

✚ I have scored the glass twice and it still does not want to break.

It is not a good idea to score the glass twice or more. Scoring a piece of glass twice will not make the score twice as good – it will only make it twice as bad! The only exception to this is when the first score is so light, you can not see it.

✚ I always seem to find it hard to get the pressure in the beginning of the score.

This is a common problem to many beginners. You must make sure that you push down, depressing the spring in the glass cutter head, before you proceed with your score. If you know that you haven't started well but the rest of the score is okay – turn the glass around (but not over) and try to break the score from the other end.

Remember ...

that practice does make perfect

...and don't forget to smile – it may be all in the way you hold your mouth!

Leadlight Products NZ – Art Glass Studio

Cnr Norton Rd & Commerce St
PO Box 5198, Frankton, Hamilton

Ph; 07 – 847 9213

Tollfree; 0800 847 9213

Fax; 07 – 846 7020

Email; info@leadlight.co.nz

Web; www.leadlight.co.nz