

1: Bead - Wikipedia

Find great deals on eBay for glass stone beads. Shop with confidence.

The good news is that most types of beads are quite easy to tell apart. However, distinguishing between glass beads and those made from semi-precious stones can be more difficult. Be an informed buyer when purchasing beads. Step 1 Ensure that you have adequate lighting. In order to tell beads apart, you need to be able to see them clearly. It is easy to mistake one type of bead for another when buying them in dimly-lit shops, but it is much harder to mistake different types when they are illuminated under a bright lamp. Step 2 Test the sounds of beads. Beads that are made out of different materials sound differently when they are rattled against each other. Grab a handful of beads that you know to be glass and shake them. You can then identify other beads by matching the sound. Beads that sound different from the glass beads may be stone. Step 3 Inspect the beads visually. Glass beads can be cut in a variety of shapes. Stone beads tend to be smaller in shape and are often left with some of their natural character rather than ground perfectly smooth. Semi-precious stones can also be abnormal in shape if left in their natural state. Step 4 Look for texture and grain within the bead. Semi-precious stones tend to have more non-uniform swirls and shapes within them than the average glass bead does. You can also compare the bead to pictures of semi-precious stones to see if they match images of any stones, such as amber or amethyst. Step 5 Examine the hole drilled in the bead. Glass beads can sometimes show frost lines from drilling or look like they have powder inside of the hole. A stone bead, on the other hand, may have some faint chipping around or inside the hole.

2: Glass Beads at Wholesale Prices

If you have a large collection of beads that you are trying to sort, or if you want to buy beads or products made with beads and aren't sure what you have in front of you, there are a few things you can do to distinguish between glass and stone.

Components[edit] Beads can be made of many different materials. The earliest beads were made of a variety of natural materials which, after they were gathered, could be readily drilled and shaped. As humans became capable of obtaining and working with more difficult materials, those materials were added to the range of available substances. But nowadays synthetic materials were added. In modern manufacturing, the most common bead materials are wood, plastic, glass, metal, and stone. Natural materials[edit] Beads are still made from many naturally occurring materials, both organic i. However, some of these materials now routinely undergo some extra processing beyond mere shaping and drilling such as color enhancement via dyes or irradiation. The natural organics include bone, coral, horn, ivory, seeds such as tagua nuts, animal shell, and wood. For most of human history pearls were the ultimate precious beads of natural origin because of their rarity; the modern pearl-culturing process has made them far more common. Amber and jet are also of natural organic origin although both are the result of partial fossilization. The natural inorganics include various types of stones, ranging from gemstones to common minerals, and metals. Of the latter, only a few precious metals occur in pure forms, but other purified base metals may as well be placed in this category along with certain naturally occurring alloys such as electrum. There are also paper beads. Swarovski crystal beads 6 mm×8 mm, pendant 3 cm Swedish patent The plastic bead pegboard The oldest-surviving synthetic materials used for beadmaking have generally been ceramics: Beads were also made from ancient alloys such as bronze and brass, but as those were more vulnerable to oxidation they have generally been less well-preserved at archaeological sites. Many different subtypes of glass are now used for beadmaking, some of which have their own component-specific names. Lead crystal beads have a high percentage of lead oxide in the glass formula, increasing the refractive index. Most of the other named glass types have their formulations and patterns inseparable from the manufacturing process. Small, colourful, fusible plastic beads some brands are Nabbi, Hama, Perler, and Pyssla can be placed on a solid plastic-backed peg array to form designs and then melted together with a clothes iron; alternatively, they can be strung into necklaces and bracelets or woven into keychains. Plastic toy beads, made by chopping plastic tubes into short pieces, were introduced in by Munkplast AB in Munka-Ljungby, Sweden, under the brand Nabbi. Known as Indian beads, they were originally sewn together to form ribbons. Later, when the beads were made of polyethylene, it became possible to fuse them with a flat iron. Hama come in three sizes: Fusible plastic beads A red and white heart made of plastic Perler or fusion beads. Heart design, heat-fused side up. Hand-made intricately woven bead bracelet from Tanzania Manufacturing[edit] Modern mass-produced beads are generally shaped by carving or casting, depending on the material and desired effect. Pressed glass beads matte finish with an AB coating Fire polished beads 10 millimetres 0. This is also true of most plastic beads. A smaller and more expensive subset of glass and lead crystal beads are cut into precise faceted shapes on an individual basis. This was once done by hand but has largely been taken over by precision machinery. They derive their name from the second half of a two-part process: The faceted beads are then poured onto a tray and briefly reheated just long enough to melt the surface, "polishing" out any minor surface irregularities from the grinding wheel. Specialized glass techniques and types[edit] Dichroic beads 10 millimetres 0. If the glass batch is used to create a large massive block instead of pre-shaping it as it cools, the result may then be carved into smaller items in the same manner as stone. Conversely, glass artisans may make beads by lampworking the glass on an individual basis; once formed, the beads undergo little or no further shaping after the layers have been properly annealed. Most of these glass subtypes are some form of fused glass, although goldstone is created by controlling the reductive atmosphere and cooling conditions of the glass batch rather than by fusing separate components together. Dichroic glass beads incorporate a semitransparent microlayer of metal between two or more layers. Fibre optic glass beads have an eye-catching chatoyant effect across the grain. There are also several ways to

fuse many small glass canes together into a multicolored pattern, resulting in millefiori beads or chevron beads sometimes called "trade beads". More economically, millefiori beads can also be made by limiting the patterning process to long, narrow canes or rods known as murrine. Thin cross-sections, or "decals", can then be cut from the murrine and fused into the surface of a plain glass bead. Shapes[edit] Round This is the most common shape of beads that are strung on wire to create necklaces, and bracelets. The shape of the round beads lay together and are pleasing to the eye. Rounds beads can be made of glass, stone, ceramic, metal, or wood. Square or Cubed Square beads can be to enhance a necklace design as a spacer however a necklace can be strung with just square beads. Oval Tube Potato Hair pipe beads Elk rib bones were the original material for the long, tubular hair pipe beads. Seed beads Main article: Seed bead Seed beads are uniformly shaped spheroidal or tube shaped beads ranging in size from under a millimetre to several millimetres. Usually rounded in shape, seed beads are most commonly used for loom and off-loom bead weaving. Place or period of origin[edit] Carved Cinnabar lacquer beads African trade beads or slave beads may be antique beads that were manufactured in Europe and used for trade during the colonial period, such as chevron beads; or they may have been made in West Africa by and for Africans, such as Mauritanian Kiffa beads , Ghanaian and Nigerian powder glass beads , or African-made brass beads. Austrian crystal is a generic term for cut lead-crystal beads, based on the location and prestige of the Swarovski firm. Czech glass beads are made in the Czech Republic , in particular an area called Jablonec nad Nisou. Production of glass beads in the area dates back to the 14th century, though production was depressed under communist rule. Because of this long tradition, their workmanship and quality has an excellent reputation. Vintage beads, in the collectibles and antique market, refers to items that are at least 25 or more years old. Vintage beads are available in materials that include lucite, plastic, crystal, metal and glass. Miscellaneous ethnic beads[edit] Tibetan Dzi beads and Rudraksha beads are used to make Buddhist and Hindu rosaries malas. Magatama are traditional Japanese beads, and cinnabar was often used for making beads in China. Wampum are cylindrical white or purple beads made from quahog or North Atlantic channeled whelk shells by northeastern Native American tribes, such as the Wampanoag and Shinnecock. Heishe are beads made of shells or stones by the Kewa Pueblo people of New Mexico. Symbolic meaning of beads[edit] In many parts of the world, beads are used for symbolic purposes, for example:

3: Glass Beads - Made in India Beads

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4: Wholesale beads and jewelry making supplies - Bead on Beads

A Grain of Sand is a bead shop that sells vintage beads, glass beads, gemstone beads, findings, beading supplies, clasps with vintage cabochons and pearl beads.

5: Stone Beads - Thunderbird Supply Company - Jewelry Making Supplies

Beads of Glass, Beads of Stone has 0 ratings and 0 reviews. The author is known in some circles as Babalashé Odufórá. Here, he expounds on material he pr.

6: Beads - Bead on Beads

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7: Wholesale Gemstone Beads Supplies Online - www.enganchecubano.com

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