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glass
TO GO!

mosaic kit
instructions



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what is a mosaic?

A mosaic is an artwork made of tiny parts that together create an image, pattern, or decorative motif. Mosaics as an art form have been around for thousands of years. Mosaics were first discovered in ancient Mesopotamia, where small pieces of tile were found in a temple from 4,000 years ago! It wasn't until ancient Greeks and Roman times that mosaics began to depict real-life scenes, patterns, and

symbols. These ancient artworks laid the groundwork for contemporary artists practicing today.

Modern mosaics are found on everything from park benches and flower pots to windows and guitars. Artworks can be as small as an earring or a large mural on a building. Mosaics can also be used in kitchen backsplashes, craft projects, gardens, and as fine art or public art.



Glass mosaic by Daviea Davis



Community mosaic mural at the Highland Park Super Playground



follow these important safety guidelines:

- **GLASS IS SHARP**—handle carefully. Use the craft stick to search through glass. Pick up pieces by the flat sides, as the edges are sharp.
- **Wash your hands**—Clean hands after handling glass or glue. Avoid touching your face or food until washed.
- **Work on a hard surface**—Use a hard, easy-to-clean surface to catch any shards. Wipe surfaces with damp paper towels to clean.
- **Keep pets away**—Glass shards are hard to see. Work in a pet-free area to keep them safe.



To watch a step-by-step instructional video and explore design ideas for your mosaic, scan the code or visit:
www.pittsburghglasscenter.org/glasstogo

prepare

- **Read all safety guidelines and instructions before you begin.**
- Gather materials and protect your work surface with newspaper.
- Arrange glass pieces on a tray or plate. *TIP: If there are Sharpie marks on any glass pieces, clean with an alcohol-based cleaner.*
- Peel the protective cover off the side you're working on. Keep the other cover on until you're finished to avoid scratches.

create

- Plan your design first, then attach the glass pieces with the silicone adhesive. Apply the adhesive either to the base or to each piece individually.
- Keep a small space (about the thickness of the craft stick) between glass pieces for grouting.

wait

- Let the glue dry for at least **1 hour** before grouting.

mix grout

- Carefully add a teaspoon of water at a time to your grout.
- Mix with the craft stick until it is the consistency of brownie batter.

grout

- Spread grout over the mosaic with your craft stick or a gloved hand. Make sure grout fills all the spaces between pieces with no air bubbles.
- Scrape off excess grout with the craft stick.

clean + dry

- Wipe off excess grout with a sponge, rag, or newspaper, keeping the grout level with or slightly below the glass.
- Once the grout dries, clean the glass with a dry paper towel to make it shine.
- Peel off the back adhesive cover after grouting.