

Glass Composition Quick Reference Table

Glass Color/Type	Date Range	Short Wave UV Light (use with caution)	Comments
Colorless Glass			
Lead glass (aka potash lead, flint (glass)	1676-present	Ice blue or ice purple	Heavy in weight relative to size of fragment. Simpson-Grant 2000B
Soda lime glass		Greenish yellow	Simmons 1995:169
Potash lime glass		Greenish yellow	
Borosilicate glass		Does not fluoresce	Simmons 1995:169.
Manganese decolorized glass (usually has slight purple/lavender tint)	Most common 1870s- WWI/1930	Dull gold/dark yellow towards orange	Manganese added to soda lime glass is photosensitive and turns purple. (Jones 2000:149).
Colored Glass			
Opaque Colors			
White	Common before 1870s		Jones 2000:147
Yellow, ivory, greens, blue, turquoise and black	Developed late 1870s		Jones 2000:147
Transparent Colors			
Cobalt Blue Emerald Green Amethyst	In production before the turn of 19th century		Jones 2000:147
Red	Developed in late 1820s, became popular in 1880s		Jones 2000:147
Amber			
Grass Green	Ca. 1900		Jones 2000:147
Pastel pink, yellow, green and blue	Late 1920s		Jones 2000:149
Uranium Glass Made in varied colors from transparent yellow and green, to opaque and opalescent greens, whites and pinks	Earliest reference 1817, but made popular beginning 1834. Still being produced today, with short hiatus during WWII.	Bright yellow/green	Corning glass as source https://www.cmog.org/glass-dictionary/uranium-glass .