



Where?

Classes take place at my studio in Southwater, West Sussex - two miles outside Horsham and approx. 10 miles from Gatwick airport and an hour from London with direct line trains close by (Horsham or Christ's Hospital). I can arrange to collect you from the station if required.

The studio is light, air-conditioned and professionally ventilated and fully equipped with lots of glass, frits, tools and kilns. I also have a range of books for reference and inspiration which you can use while you are here.

Would you like to learn how to make your own lampwork glass beads?

I offer classes at my studio near Horsham, West Sussex, for those who would like to find out more about what's involved and for those who already have some basic experience but want help to move on to the next level.

I have extensive experience teaching beginners and more advanced classes and I keep my class size small (maximum 3 students) to allow you lots of individual attention and to get the maximum benefit out of the day. Whether alone or with friends, the day is tailored for your own particular needs or experience. Classes take place in my bright, ventilated and air-conditioned studio and include all materials and refreshments throughout the day.

An excellent range of glass together with an inspiring library of books are waiting to awaken those creative juices!



When?

All week. Weekends tend to book up a while ahead but if you can take a day off and come during the week you'll get in much sooner - you get a discount too. Classes start at 10am and run through to approximately 4pm with a short break for lunch. (These times are flexible should you be travelling a distance and want to start and finish a little later).



Can I keep my beads?

Absolutely. You would keep any beads you make yourself and share any demo beads I make (if you're alone of course, you'll keep them all). All beads made on the day will be kiln annealed and then cleaned and sent on to you.

Who?

Anyone – men make great bead makers too – but the minimum age is 16. I teach a maximum of three students at a time - bring along some friends for a fun day - but if you prefer to work alone, that's fine too. Either way you get lots of torch time - you have your own torch to use - as I think you learn more with a 'hands on' approach. PLEASE NOTE: My studio is not suitable for wheelchair access.

Will I be able to make beads like you?

The answer is 'yes'....possibly. BUT, only if you are prepared, and able, to put in the time and practice needed to improve and develop.

Making lampwork beads often looks easier than it is when you first start so, as when acquiring any skill, you need lots of patience and practice to improve.

Taking an introductory class will give you the opportunity to see if you like making beads and want to take it further before committing to the expense of buying equipment.



What will I learn?

The typical class content is detailed on the next page. However, this can, and does, sometimes change as you work because you might prefer to try something different depending on your progress and interests.

Either way, the day is tailored to work at your pace.

Who should I choose to teach me?

Obviously if you have a personal referral then that always helps but picking someone with extensive experience who can give you a good grounding in the techniques you want to learn is also important.

It is also vital that you work in a safe environment so check that the workspace is properly ventilated and safety glasses are provided. Professional teachers will always want you to work safely and will advise you on safe working practices as well as employ them in their own environment.

You should also ensure that the tutor is covered by Public Liability Insurance and that your beads will be annealed in a kiln - you don't want your hard work to crack or break at a later date. If in doubt, ask. Another starting point would be to pick someone who makes beads which really inspire you and make you think, "I wish I could do that!"

What is included?

The cost covers all lampworking materials (glass, frit, metals, wires, enamels etc.) and refreshments throughout. All you need to do is bring a packed lunch. Protective eyewear is provided for your use.

You will also receive some notes to take away with you giving some equipment details and useful contact addresses and suppliers should you decide to take the plunge and buy your own equipment.





Typical class content:

- o Safety: all classes begin with a run through of safety procedures regarding the use of propane, torches, eye protection and ventilation.
- o Torches: the Hot Head single fuel torch and the Minor dual-fuel torch - the safe use of each and their characteristics. You will be working with the Minor torch during the day.
- o Tools: basic tools and their use including bead presses, mashers, marvers and mandrels.
- o Glass: melting and working the glass including looking at the characteristics of the flame and the reduction and oxidising flame.
- o Techniques will include: pulling stringers, making and applying twisted stringers, using frits, enamels, metal foil and wire, making and using simple murrini, encasing, dot application, gravity shaping, marbling, triangle beads, barrel beads, reduction frit, silvered glass, disk encasing, stringer application (lines, dots, twists, gravity), making bubbles and bumpies.
- o Annealing: all quality lampwork glass beads should be, and are, annealed. We will discuss the importance of this.
- o Bead shaping: we will start by forming a basic round bead shape on the mandrel and shaping the glass whilst maintaining control in the flame. As you progress and as time allows, we will also look at other shapes including the barrel, tab, disk, donut and lentil and hand shaping and bead presses.

The class content is flexible to suit each student should you wish to experiment. Either way, you'll work at a pace to suit you. We will have plenty of time to discuss equipment and safety considerations should you wish to set up your own studio.



How do I book?

Drop me an email with suggested dates and once I've checked availability, send me a deposit and I'll confirm your booking. The deposit is refundable if you cancel more than one month before the start date and if I have to cancel for reasons beyond my control, you would receive your full deposit back or can re-book if you prefer.

Deposits* can be paid by PayPal or cheque – get in touch for further details. The balance is payable on the day of the class (cheques, cash or payment by PayPal is accepted).

Gift vouchers are available if you wish to buy a class for a third party - the full fee is payable at time of purchase. Vouchers are non-refundable, open dated and can be transferred if required.



Refresher Days

Have you been making beads for a while but feel you've reached a point where they're not quite turning out the way you envisaged?

Perhaps you need help with general shaping or perhaps are tired of making 'wonky' beads and don't know what you're doing wrong or just generally feel you lack creativity and inspiration? Then a refresher class may be just what you need.

It's easy to get stuck in a rut and develop bad habits but I can help you develop new skills, assess your general bead making and give you some pointers to help move you forward.



If you'd like further information please get in touch either by email or give me a call. I will happily talk you through further details.

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Costs

	Monday to Friday	Saturday or Sunday
One-to-one tuition	£125	£150
2 or 3 persons	£100	£125
*Deposit (per person)	£30	£30

NB: All prices are per person, per day.

Terms & Conditions:

The class fee balance is payable on the day – UK cheques, cash or payment by PayPal are accepted.

The deposit is refundable if you cancel more than one month before the start date and if I have to cancel for reasons beyond my control, you would receive your full deposit back or can re-book if you prefer.

(Prices correct at time of going to press, please check current prices before booking).

