



The Technique of 'Pate de Verre'

Historical Origin

'Pate de Verre' is an ancient process of glass making originally discovered in Ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia 16th century BC. The term 'pate de verre' meaning – *paste of glass* – emerged in France in the late 19th century.

Process

Pate de verre involves mixing coloured glass granules (frit) with a binder to a paste-like consistency.



Leaves Before Packing

The paste of glass frit is then applied by hand (known as packing) to the mould. Large and detailed forms can take up to 60 hours to pack.

When the packing stage is complete the piece is kiln fired to a temperature that burns away the binder and melts (fuses) the glass frit together.



Packing Process Completed

When the kiln firing cycle is complete the mould is removed and the glass piece cleaned.



Fired Detail

The final result is a translucent glass object displaying the unique crystalline structure characteristic of 'Pate de Verre'.

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Final Pieces