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POINT & CLICK ON BOLD LINKS



Recycling Ocean Gems

Sea glass has become very popular as a component in jewelry, chimes, sun catchers and ornaments.

Tumbled by the ocean waves, sea glass comes from tossed bottles and jars that have found their way to the sea. The sand and surf softens the edges of the broken glass as it tumbles in the waves creating smooth, frosty pieces of sea glass, or beach glass.

Green, clear, and brown are the most common colors of sea glass, but other colors from pink to red to amber to blue are rare finds, since most of the glass bottles produced since the early 1900's were of the three common colors. Although it can be found world wide, sea glass is becoming more rare as beach combers around the world have been hunting for sea glass, often for their entire lifetimes. Sea glass has been further reduced by the introduction of plastic bottles and glass recycling, so less glass has found its way to the ocean as trash. But the touch of the sea still leaves gems for us to find. Another way to reduce, reuse, and recycle, sea glass jewelry and

decor has become something we can enjoy that's good for the environment. SOURCE: SEAGLASSJEWLERYDESIGNS.COM

Sea Glass Jewelry Designs

Vermont artist, Jennifer Wagner has been collecting sea glass for six years along the beaches of the Californian coast. She creates jewelry from genuine surf-tumbled sea glass, which she has gathered. The artists also creates sun catchers and ornaments. Aqua Mix Earrings shown above come from her Bent Collection. See more styles: Seaglassjewelrydesigns.com





Jessica Lee

The subtle beauty of this necklace belies the creative energies behind its creation. Handcrafted by Oregon artist Jessica Lee, this piece showcases seven sea glass stones weathered by the forces of nature. They are encased in sterling silver, and held together by a sterling clasp adorned with semi-precious stones. Adjustable from 16 to 17.5 inches, this necklace is exquisitely designed for earth-loving individuals. Price: U\$\$90.00. www.greensceneshop.com



West Coast Sea Glass

Genuine sea glass jewelry created by serious sea glass hunters and trained jewelery artists of the U.S. Pacific Northwest, Mary Beth and Lindsay. Emerald Green and Aqua Blue Earrings and Pendant (above) have short stacks of agua and limey green sea glass hanging on sterling silver earwires and feature a bright pewter sea star. Pendant on 16" sterling chain. Price: US\$74.00 www.westcoastseaglass.net Key Lime Ring (left) sports a delicious "limey-est" of gems from England's North Sea. It is a sea glass hunter's dream! It's about 5/8" long and set in .925 sterling silver. Size 6.5. Price: US\$142.00 www.westcoastseaglass.net



Imagine wearing this delicately designed bracelet on your wrist. The light tones give it an airy feel, so it easily complements any outfit or beachwear. The single red gem (you won't believe it's actually sea glass!) stand out amidst the line of seven icy white sea glass stones fitted in sterling silver. Framed by real freshwater pearls and glass beads, this 8.5 inch cuff bracelet comes without any sharp edges. The company gets their sea glass from the East Coast of North America, Bermuda, the Caribbean and Puerto Rico. Price: US\$295.00.



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www.spiritoftheseaglassjewelry.com



Sea Glass



Sea Sapphire Collection

Gina Cowen designs and creates handdrilled pieces of sea-glass in pale aqua blues make up this necklace crafted by UK artisan Gina Cowen. Spaced with toning frosted glass beads and finished with handbeaten silver clasps. Cowen has specialised in jewellery from sea-glass because of the beauty in these simple, tide-tossed luminous pebbles of colour. Her earliest pieces were inspired by glass picked up on a small stretch of shingle near Cape Town, she now has glass from around the world. Some she collects, some are sent by friends. Prices from GB£300.00. The earrings (right) are created with hand-forged and filed, swanhoop silver or 18ct gold fittings with single, double or triple drops of sea-glass. Prices from GB£60.00. www.seaglass.co.uk



Red Orange Pair

EndoDay Sea Glass in Sterling Bezel© earrings created by selftaught wire jewelry maker, Linda Jereb of Florida, feature bright red orange sea glass. One must search hundreds of pairs to find a match of this calibre and of such a rare, valuable color in very old antique sea glass from the coast of England. According to the artist, it is called End of Day glass, or slag glass, and comes from a site in England where a Victorian-era glass company tossed scraps over the cliff at the end of the day. These pieces of sea glass are a once in a lifetime find for a sea glass enthusiast. Price: US\$400.00 www.bytheseajewelry.com





Sea Glass & Leather for Him

Sisters Jennifer Reed and Terri Reed-Bover's business of sea alass iewellery originates from their passion for pairing sea-glass jewellery in sterling silver and 14k gold. This they do beautifully, utilising their knowledge gained from a college education in metalsmithing and art. Throughout their lives, they hold firm to this passion, integrating this into their family life. The sisters, from Pennsylvannia, believe in using sea glass as it has been found on the beaches of Lake Erie, without any alteration or polishing. Above is a rustic braided tan leather necklace that any man would have no qualms wearing. The multi-coloured sea glass positioned on sterling silver show off the cool tones of brown, amber, agua and clear beach glass. Available in various lengths of 17, 18 and 9 inches. Prices from US\$188.00-\$192.00.

www.relishinc.com

Make a bold statement with this handcrafted leather necklace. Its centrepiece—a piece of brown beach glass backed in sterling silver—raises the wow factor without stealing attention from the wearer. Ending in a sterling silver clasp, the necklace comes in lengths from 16 to 20 inches. The brown beach glass will vary in shape, shade and size, so every piece is unique. Price: US\$70.00. www.relishinc.com





HL Sea Beach Glass Jewelry

With a simple vet handsome design, this illusion sea glass pendant works well for him or her. Professionally drilled and handcrafted with strong beading wire and stirling silver findings. Also available on leather string or sterling silver chain in various lengths. Price: US\$35.00 www.hlseabeachglassjewelry.com



For this number, beach glass of green, blue, brown, sea foam, red and clear colours show off your vibrant personality. Looking dynamic enough to leap off your finger, the beach glass nevertheless will stay put on the 8mm sterling silver ring. Price: US\$210.00. www.relishinc.com





Sea Glass



Dreamcatcher

Artisan Tina Lam of Ecstasea in Hona Kong has been collecting seaglass for almost ten vears and started making sea glass iewelry two years ago. Hong Kong is one of the busiest Asian cities blessed

with beaches, she said. "Visits to the beach are walking meditations for me. Seaglass found on these trips remind me of nature's amazing ability to turn humble glass shards into prized gems. I saw them as gifts from nature to those who love the sun, sea and beaches, because these are the elements that crafted them. I just add the simplest touches to bring out their best!" All Tina's seaglass components are genuine and personally hand-collected, never etched, tumbled or altered. The collection of these natural briolette shaped pastel seaglass drops spans years, and they

> compliment each other beautifully in this tranquil pendant with sterling silver dreamcatcher charm. Each drop measuries 3/8 - 1/2 inch long, and the sterling silver bail is 3/8 inch. Price: US\$33.00. www.etsy.com

> The wave bracelet features a beautiful agua color of sea glass that is slightly curved to fit perfectly snug on your wrist. Tina has complimented its wavy shape with a series of hammered sterling silver waves, giving a unique, dynamic character to this bracelet. The seaglass is drilled on each end and strung with dark brown leather straps and sterling silver togale clasps. The bracelet is 7.5 inches long. The seaglass is 1 3/8 inches long by 5/8 inch at widest. Price: US\$21.00

www.etsy.com



This beautiful sea-glass bouquet necklace by Katie Carrin of Berkeley, California, features a rare piece of orange sea glass from the North Sea of England, faceted carnelian aemstones and creamy white freshwater keishi pearls hanging from a sterling silver necklace. Each individual gemstone and pearl is hand-wrapped in sterling silver to create this unique flower bouquet centerpiece. Price: US\$350.00

www.katiecarrin.com



Sea Horse

This darling one of a kind genuine sea glass seahorse (above) by Svetlana Rasuleva of Palmeras features teal colored sea glass wrapped by hand in sterling silver wire with sterling silver beads and white topaz aemstones. Pendant measure 8.5cm (3.3 inches) long. Comes with a sterling silver chain 70cm (27.5 inches) long with sterling sliver clasp, adorned with white topaz micro faceted gemstone rondelles. Price: US\$240.00



Palmeras Sea Glass

Svetlana Rasuleva of Palmeras, an artist and collector of sea glass living in Mallorca (Balearic Islands), has been collecting and making sea glass jewelry for almost four years. "All my sea alass is genuine and handpicked by me on the shores of the Balearic Islands of Spain. Each piece of sea glass jewelry

is inspired by the beauty, colors and nature of the Mediterranean and holds a unique history." One-of-a-kind, the Turkish Delight bracelet (above) is inpired by Turkish black coffee, turkish delight sweets, caramel and turquoise gemstones. This beautiful bangle features sea glass in black (a very dark olive green), turquoise, brown, amber honey

and golden honey found on the beaches of the Balearic Islands. Wrapped by hand in sterling silver wire, the silver is given a vintaged effect by being oxidized and finally polished. Length of the bangle with clasp is approximately 20cm (7.8 inches). The bracelet is rigid, having a resistent structure. Price: US\$270.00 www.etsy.com

www.etsy.com





Beach Wedding Bridal Jewelry

This beautiful sea-glass bouquet necklace by Katie Carrin of Berkeley, California, features a frosty piece of white sea glass, faceted quartz crystal drop gemstones and creamy white freshwater keishi pearls hanging from a sterling silver necklace. Each individual







© 2006 West Coast Sea Glass

Pink

Comflower

Aqua Blue



Orange

Black

Amethyst

Seafoam Green







Teal Green







Honey Amber



Emerald Green

Brown

White

Sea glass rarity chart from ultra rare to common (top to bottom) by Mary Beth Beuke of West Coast Sea Glass; www.westcoastseaglass.net

SEA GLASS RARITY

water pearl earrings,

\$108.00. Rare, six piece

bezel bracelet, \$420.00.

Westcoastseaglass.net

Sea glass comes in all sorts of shapes and sizes as well as colors. Certain colors of sea glass are more rare to find than others. Below are ratings of sea glass color by rarity as described in the book, Pure Sea Glass by Richard Lamotte:

EXTREMELY RARE: orange, red, turquoise, yellow, black, teal and gray RARE: pink, aqua, cornflower blue, cobalt blue, opaque white, citron and purple amethyst

UNCOMMON: soft green, soft blue, forest green, lime green, golden amber, amber and jade

COMMON: kelly green, brown, clear white

SOURCE: HLSEABEACHGLASSJEWELRY.COM

Check out the following sources for more information about sea glass:

North American Sea Glass Association www.seaglassassociation.org

Sea Glass Journal www.seaglassjournal.com



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