

TILLERMAN BEADS

INTRODUCTION TO BEADMAKING 5 HOURS

Course outline :

SAFETY :

WORKING WITH GAS
SETTING UP A SAFE WORKSPACE
EYE PROTECTION
PROPER VENTILATION
APPROPRIATE CLOTHING COTTON NATURAL FIBRES (POLYESTER MELTS !)
LONG SLEEVES NO SHORTS OR OPEN TOED SANDALS AND LONG HAIR TIED BACK

EQUIPMENT :

MAINTAINING GAS TANKS-HOSES-REGULATORS
DIFFERENT GAS OPTIONS (CONCENTRATORS)
OPERATING TORCHES ORDER OF TURNING ON GASES
SHUTTING DOWN EQUIPMENT
KILNS FOR ANNEALING BEADS DIGITAL CONTROLLERS
COOLING WITH FIBRE BLANKETS/VERMICULITE
BATCH ANNEALING
BASIC TOOLS USED IN BEADMAKING

ERGONOMICS :

CORRECT WAY TO HOLD MANDRELS
IMPORTANCE OF GOOD POSTURE - TAKING BREAKS
WORKBENCH SETUP-CHAIR ON WHEELS- GOOD LIGHTING
TABLE HEIGHT.

GLASS :

DIFFERENT TYPES OF GLASS (HARD SOFT - BRAND NAMES)
COE'S AND COMPATABILITY
STRESS IN GLASS- THERMAL SHOCK
ANNEALING
REDUCTION FLAME/OXYDIZING FLAME
GLASS REACTIONS

BEADMAKING BASICS :

AVOID THERMAL SHOCKING RODS BY WARMING SLOWLY
WINDING GLASS ON, LAYING DOWN AN EVEN FOOTPRINT
IMPORTANCE OF SLOW EVEN ROTATION OF MANDREL
POSITION OF HANDS
ADDING EXTRA GLASS
WHERE TO WORK IN THE FLAME
USING HEAT AND GRAVITY TO FORM BEAD
MAKING EVEN AND DIMPLED ENDS
SHAPING WITH GRAPHITE TOOLS

ADDITIONAL TECHNIQUES :

PULLING STRINGER
USING FRIT
MAKING TWO COLOUR TWISTIES
MAKING DOTS - TWISTING DOTS - LAYERING DOTS
DISTORTING BEAD SURFACE - RAKING
APPLYING STRINGER
BASIC ENCASING

PREPARATION :

PREPARING AND DIPPING MANDRELS
CLEANING GLASS RODS
REMOVING BEADS FROM MANDRELS
CLEANING BEAD HOLES

RESOURCES :

RECOMMENDED READING/DVD/VIDEO
INFORMATION ON SUPPLIERS OF GLASS AND TOOLS/EQUIPMENT
INFORMATION ABOUT ISGB AND OTHERS

