

# 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 - MANUFACTURERS )  
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/VIDEOS  
INFORMATION ON SUPPLIERS OF GLASS AND TOOLS/EQUIPMENT  
INFORMATION ABOUT ISGB AND OTHERS