

MILK GLASS

Some History

Venetian glass makers developed milky white glass sometime in the the 16th century and called it *opal glass*.

The term we use today, *milk glass*, may have first been used by the Victorians who fell in love with it, due in part to its similarity to porcelain, which only the very wealthiest families could afford.

After falling out of favor in the early 20th century, companies like Fenton, Westmoreland, and Indiana Glass ushered in a "golden age" of milk glass that extended from about 1940 to 1970. →

Victorian milk glass is often rather ornate and somewhat translucent, while newer pieces tend to be simpler and opaque.

Quality milk glass has no mold marks and has a smooth, glossy finish. Florist grade glass is often textured and contains unsightly mold marks.

Fenton & Westmoreland Marks



After another serious down-turn, this simple white glass entered our decorating consciousness again in the 2000's and it remains popular even now, in 2020.

Interestingly enough, milk glass comes in a variety of colors, including, pink, yellow, blue, brown, and black. [You can see some examples in the blog post on this topic.]

Helpful Hints:

- I find milk glass most cheaply at garage sales, sometimes for as little as a quarter and at thrift stores, usually for \$2-3/piece.
- Buy it only if you love it because you are unlikely to make a lot of profit on it if you try to sell it(!).
- If you want to sell it, colored milk glass sells better for me than plain white.
- I sell it in my antique booth for more than the prices I see on either eBay or Etsy

FOR MORE DETAILS

Check out the blog post on this topic:

[Collecting Vintage Milk Glass](#)