

# How to Cut Stained Glass



by  
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I love glass! I have always loved using stained glass for projects because there is such a wonderful variety in the colors, swirls, texture, patterns, and when you flip a piece of stained glass over, surprise! There's more! Glass works so well in mosaics, but you need to know how to cut it so you get the right kind of results. This short Ebook focuses strictly on how to cut stained glass.

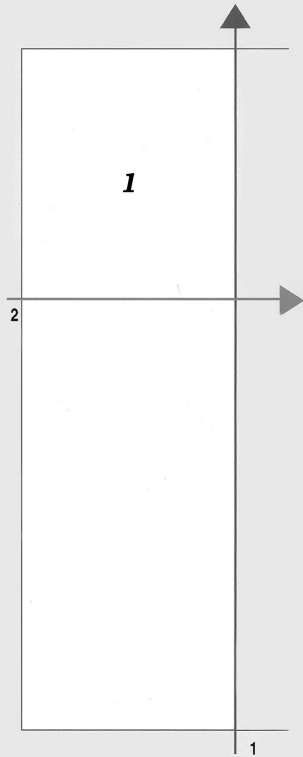
**Safety** – First and foremost, I cannot stress safety enough. Glass can cut you, but this doesn't mean you have to be intimidated by it. When you are cutting glass or grinding glass, please wear safety goggles. Also, there are thick rubber gloves you can buy very inexpensively for when you are handling larger pieces of glass.

## **6 Basic Cutting Techniques using Glass Cutter (scorer)**

Hold the cutter in your writing hand and starting at the bottom of the glass, apply steady pressure, keeping the cutter straight up and down, and slide your way to the top of the glass making a score on the glass. You should be able to hear the glass being scored as you go. Once you start, do NOT stop in the middle or lift your cutter until you reach the opposite side of the glass. If you are cutting curves, you will have to make several scores to reach the results you desire. Note: You cannot cut 90 degree angles with hand tools!

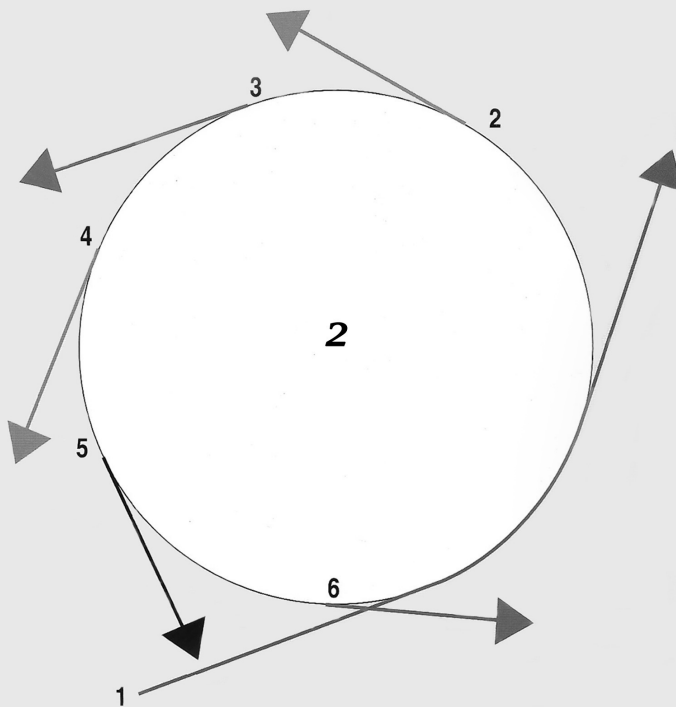
After you make your score, use the running pliers to complete the break. On the head of your running pliers is a line; be sure to line this up with your score and then gently squeeze until the glass breaks.

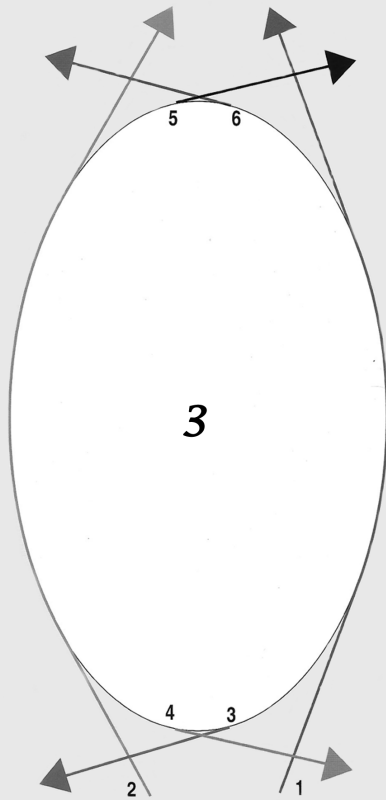
1. Straight cuts – Since you can't cut 90 degree angles, two scores are necessary for square cuts. Start at one end of the glass and finish at the other. Then turn your glass sideways to cut the other side. (see 1)
2. Circles – You will need to make several score lines to cut circles. (see 2)
3. Ovals – You will also need to make at least 6 score lines to cut out an oval. (See 3)
4. Inside curves – Make several “scallop” shape score lines before you break them out. Using your grozier, remove the scallops, beginning with the one closest to the edge of the glass. (See 4) Place the tip of the grozier up to the score line at one end or the other and use a pulling action toward you to break the glass.
5. Outside curves – Similar to circles and ovals, make at least 3 score lines (see 5)
6. S-Shapes – Score your curved line onto the glass, using the running pliers, squeeze gently at one end, then turn and position them on the opposite end and squeeze gently. This allows the run to meet in the middle and break correctly. (see 6)



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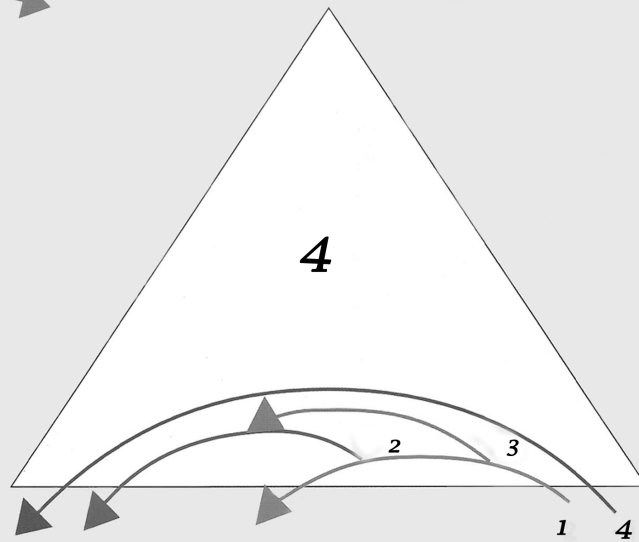
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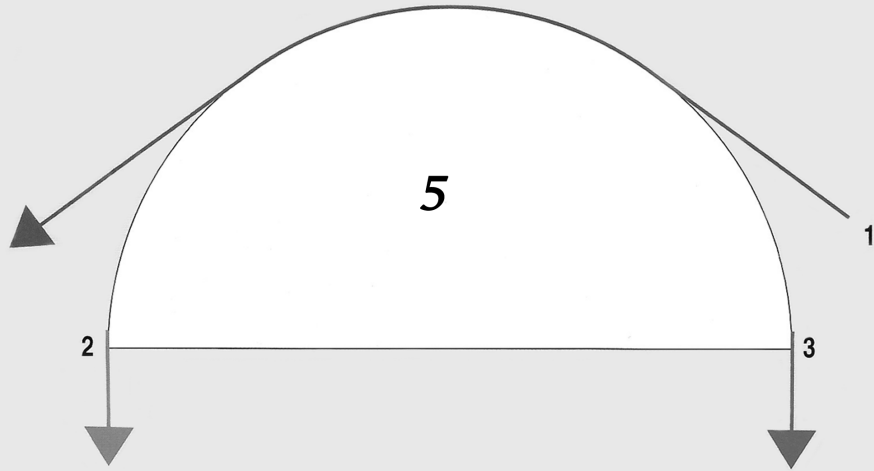




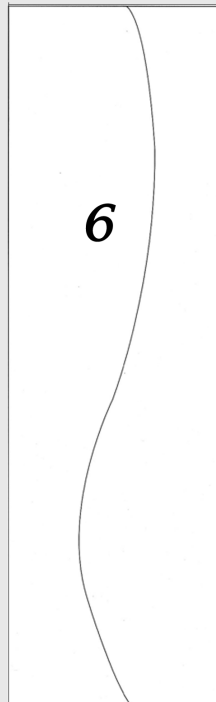
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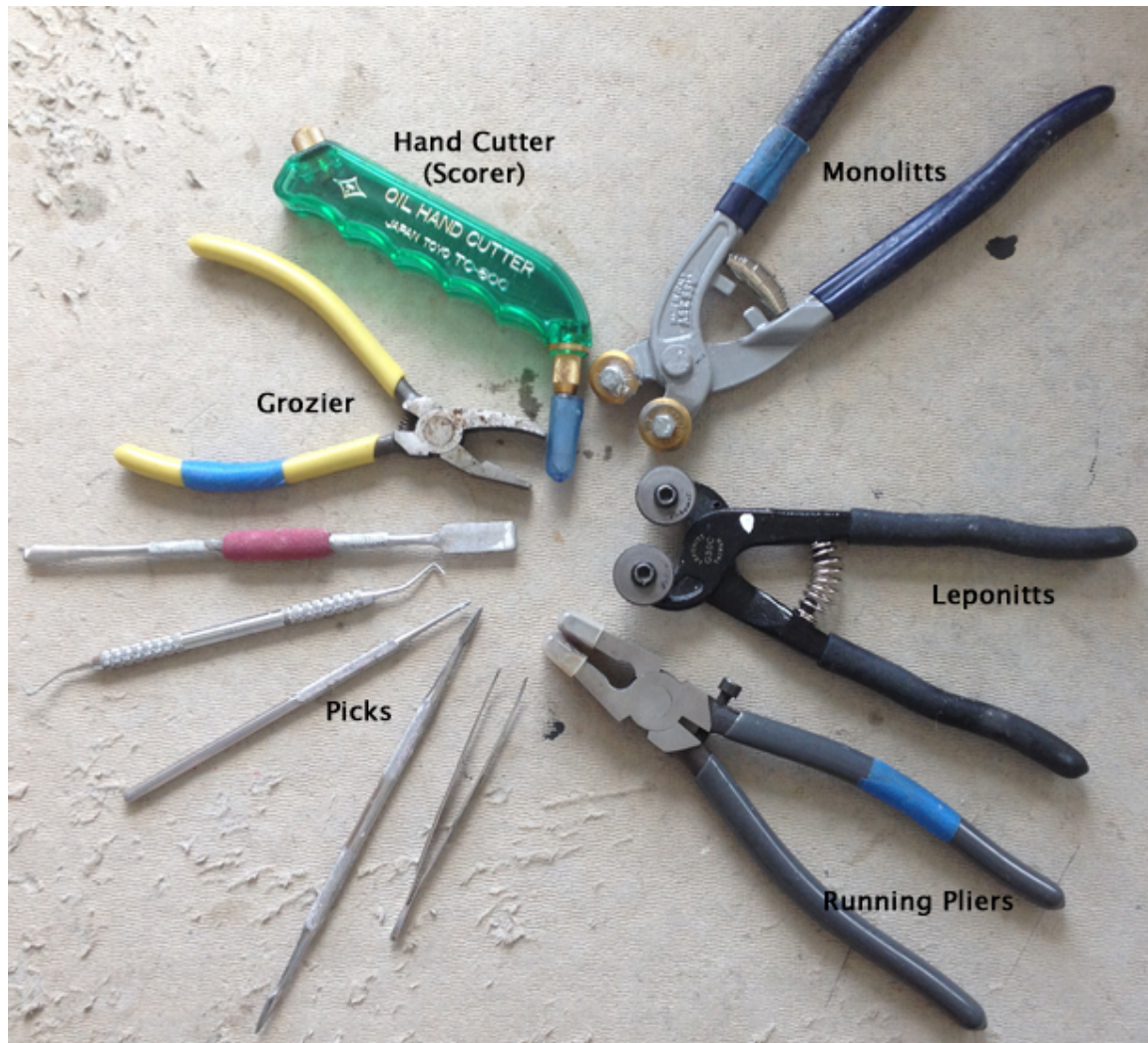


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My favorite tools:



Skeewpicks are now my favorite cleaning and detailing tools. Check them out here: <https://skeew.biz/collections/mosaic-tools>

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