



As an artist who creates stained glass panels, I feel fortunate to be able to travel to glass factory warehouses to hand pick the stained glass that I use in my creations.

When I make my periodic visits to select my glass supplies, I am like a kid in a candy store. The colors and textures available are wonderful. While I have my list of glass that I must have; I always leave room and time to explore and choose other glass that speaks to me.

Manufacturers often create trial runs of stained glass that are called "un-cats", meaning that this glass has not yet made it into the catalog. Being able to choose from this glass is just delightful. While it is certainly possible to purchase stained glass online and have it shipped to my studio, the pictures are never the same as holding the glass in your hands and up to the light. It is only then that you can see the true nature of the stained glass and hand pick the sheets with exactly the colors and textures that you are looking for.

Really, stained glass depends entirely on light to bring out its hidden beauty and nuances of color. On a cloudy, overcast day, a stained glass window will still be beautiful. However, when the sunlight streams through stained glass, it is truly transformed.

We always ask customers where they plan to hang their stained glass panel. Will it be in a bright sunny window or one that doesn't get as much sun? Stained glass can be clear, translucent or opaque. In a bright sunny window, the use of deep colors and opaque glass will impart a deeper range of colors and variation. In a window that does not receive direct sunlight, you may want to use lighter and more translucent glass to allow all the light to come through into the room. The possibilities and options are wide open when you design your own artwork.

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