Guide to Carnival Glass Terms SECOND EDITION

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Includes acronyms, names of shapes and all those confusing terms you've always wanted to know

Alphabetical A to Z

*NEW FEATURE: Appendix of old Newspaper ads featuring Carnival



Left to right: Northwood's Tornado vase in green, Fenton contemporary Peacock Garden vase in purple,

Dugan Peacock at the Fountain tumbler in blue and a marigold Tornado Variant vase.

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A to Z listing and Cross Referencing

This Guide is a simple alphabetical listing with all the terms clearly explained. If an item is in bold text in the explanation, there will be a further entry for that term in the listing.

Searching

This book is an alphabetical listing, so there is no index and the reader should be able to find terms with ease. As this is a PDF it is also "searchable" by pressing Control F (which should pop up a small search box) or by using the Find Text button on the top menu bar (magnifying glass icon).

Acronyms

Let's begin with a short list of acronyms, those infuriating letters that you sometimes know and often don't. We'll give the full terms they stand for – you can find a definition for most of them in the A to Z listing.

3 in 1 – three in one (three and one) AF – as found (implying some damage)

CC – Crown Crystal Glass Company, Australia CRE – candy ribbon edge

FCE – fine crimped edge FTD – footed

G&C – the Grape and Cable pattern

ICS – ice cream shape

IG – the Imperial trademark

N – the Northwood trademark

PCE – pie crust edge

PO – peach opal (also AO aqua opal)

TCE – tight crimped edge

Further Information

There are a number of relevant links to further information on our website within the A to Z glossary. You'll find a treasure trove of information on our website – here are a few links to some of the most popular sections:

COLOUR – every Carnival colour explained: <u>Carnival Glass Colours</u>

ALL THE CARNIVAL GLASS MAKERS: Makers

PHOTO GALLERIES to help you ID your glass: Galleries

ALL ABOUT CARNIVAL - facts, explanations and myth busting: FAQs

FEATURES OF CARNIVAL – how it's made and more: Features

BACK ISSUES OF OUR CARNIVAL EZINE NETWORK: Back Issues

STORIES BEHIND THE GLASS: Carnival Glass Times

HOW CARNIVAL WAS SOLD: Butler Brothers and More

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What is Carnival Glass

Carnival Glass is iridised glass that has some kind of moulded pattern. Iridescence is an oil-on-water, "soap bubble" effect that is given to the glass by being sprayed with metallic salts while the glass is still very hot. Most Carnival is press moulded but it can also be blow moulded. There are a few minor exceptions and there are cross-over pieces (that don't quite fit) but, by and large, Carnival has a moulded pattern. One rule that never changes is this – Carnival Glass is iridescent.

Carnival Glass began to be mass produced round about 1907, following on from the earlier, limited, iridescent Art Glass production in Europe and the USA. Carnival Glass was made in the USA, Europe, Australia, India and South America and is still being made today.

CLASSIC CARNIVAL GLASS

Classic USA Carnival was made from 1907 to the early 1930s.

Classic European Carnival was made from probably the same time (c. 1907) to the late 1930s.

Classic Australian Carnival was made from the early 1920s possibly into the mid-1940s.

Typically made on a side lever press, and often hand-finished.



1910 newspaper ad featuring Dugan's Ski Star bowl



Late Carnival was made in the USA through the 1930s (Great Depression era) to c. late 1950s. The iridescent output from Jeannette in patterns such as Iris & Herringbone, typifies this genre. It was machine-made glass and often has a standardised appearance.



1949 Billboard ad featuring Jeannette's Iris & Herringbone iridescent tableware



CONTEMPORARY CARNIVAL GLASS

Contemporary/Modern Carnival Glass was made from the 1960s right up to today.

Carnival production was revived and reissued by Fenton and Imperial (and others) in the USA.

Mosser in Ohio still make Carnival today.



Genuine Re-issue of Iridescent
"CARNIVAL GLASS"
by IMPERIAL

Colorful Carnival Glass has all the richness of the affluent Victoria era and yet is apt for today's homes! Select your piece in either Peacock or Rubigold colors.

From \$3.50 Ea.

OPEN A CHARGE ACCOUNT TODAY — PAY IN JAN. 1966 SHOP TILL 9 EACH EVENING UP TO DEC. 24TH

BECHTEL, LUTZ & JOST, Inc.

940 PENN STREET

1965 newspaper ad featuring Imperial's re-issued Carnival Glass Loganberry vase



WHY IS IT CALLED CARNIVAL GLASS?

It's a long story! Over the years it has had many names, including "Pompeiian, "Venetian Art", and "Mexican Aurora" – these were all terms that were intended to help it sell in the early days when it was first made. Then, as it started to become a collectible item, other names began to be used, such as "Nancy Glass", "Baking Powder Glass" and "Centennial Flash Glass". Eventually one name stuck ... Carnival Glass. This came about because some early Carnival Glass had been used as prizes at carnivals and county fairs (see right).



Read more about the origins of all the Carnival Names
Read more about the Carnival Pioneers and Roll A Ball
Photo of Roll A Ball carnival prizes above courtesy Dave Doty

Advertising Piece

Also called Lettered or Souvenir – refers to pieces bearing some form of lettering or graphics that were used to promote a business or event.

Right: Millersburg's Bernheimer Brothers blue bowl advertised the Baltimore Department store, Bernheimer Brothers.



Amberina

A shading of red to orange/yellow. The yellow is in the centre of the piece or base of a stem on amberina, while on reverse amberina the yellow is around the outer edges. (Also refers to a type of Art Glass invented by Joseph Locke, but this has no direct connection with Carnival).



Note how the amberina on this Fenton Holly compote shows the yellow effect on the base of the stem. Often the yellow sections in amberina and reverse amberina will glow orange if a Black (UV) Light is shone on them. It's the cadmium in the glass batch that causes that. Read about it here.

Applied

Something that was attached (as hot glass) to a glass object, effectively being "stuck on" after the piece had been removed from its actual mould. Handles were often applied.

Art Glass

Usually used to refer to limited (often blown) decorative glassware. Art Glass is not Carnival Glass.

As Moulded

In the exact shape that the piece came out of the **Mould** with no subsequent shaping, ruffling or swinging.

Azur(e)

Azur is an old, original term used by Imperial to describe their rich purple Carnival (often with a blue-ish iridescence). Later used as azure blue by Imperial in the late 1960s to describe their **Contemporary** ice blue Carnival.

\mathbf{B}



Northwood's Grape & Cable Banana Boat with Ball (Scroll) Feet.

Baking Powder Glass

An old name for Carnival that arose because some was given away as free gifts with purchases of baking powder.

Ball Feet

A rounded foot, variations being ball & claw (fashioned like claws, rather like the ball & claw feet on furniture) and **Scroll** feet. See also **Footed** for more photos.

Banana Boat (Bowl)

A large oval bowl (often **Footed**), shaped to hold fruit especially bananas. Also used as the term banana boat shape (or dish) where the regular shape has been modified to curve up on two opposite sides.

Base Glass

The colour of the glass itself, under the iridescence. It is best determined where the iridescence does not affect the underlying colour, such as on a **Collar Base** (hold the piece up to a good light source).

Basket

A handled item, often intended for small stemmed flowers.

Batch

The glass mix (sand, lime, Cullet etc.) – see also Metal.

Berry

A small dish usually one of six matching items that go with a **Master** berry to make a full berry set.

Big Five

A term used to denote the main USA **Classic Carnival** makers – Fenton, Northwood, Imperial, Dugan/Diamond and Millersburg.

Black Light

A light bulb giving off ultra-violet light that identifies **Vaseline** glass, as it glows / fluoresces a vivid green when the UV is shone on it. Repairs on glass (such as epoxy) can be spotted under UV light.

Blank

A plain glass item that is then further **Decorated**.

Blemishes, Defects and Damage

See Damage and also see Handmade Glass.

Blown (Blow Moulded)

Glass that is blown by air pressure into a **Mould** (can also have been "blown" by mouth).

Bobeche

The part of a candleholder around the socket that catches the wax drips.

Bon Bon

A small dish, usually (but not always) two handled; it may be **Ruffled**, unruffled or have two sides pulled up (also may be **Collar Based** or **Pedestal Based**).



Basket of Roses **Bon Bon** by Northwood – it has a **Fluted** edge and note the **Stippling** all over the surface which reflects the light and enhances the **Iridescence**.

Bonbonniere

A European term for a small, decorative jar or box (usually covered) for candy or similar. See cover illustration for a good example of a bonbonniere.

Bracket Edge

An unusual edge shape, mainly used by Eda Glasbruk, that looks exactly like the curved form of a bracket. See **Scallop and Flute Edge** for detailed identification photos.

Breakfast Set

An open sugar bowl and a cream jug – intended for less formal occasions than the full **Table Set**.

Bullet Edge

Seldom seen, this edge is reminiscent of a row of bullets. Examples from Australia's Crown Crystal are known. See below for image.





Bullet Edge on Crown Crystal's Kookaburra F**loat Bowl** in marigold.



Candy Ribbon Edge on Dugan's Flowers and Frames bowl in peach **Opalescent**.

Cameo

Where the design is cut into the surface of the **Mould** (or the **Plunger**) and thus appears as the finished pattern in relief (raised up) on the surface of the glass item.

Candy Jar

Known as a konfekturna in Swedish – a covered (lidded) jar for keeping candy, sweets etc.

Candy Ribbon Edge (CRE)

Continuous tight crimping (ruffling). Also known as **Continuous Crimping**, **Tight Crimped Edge** and **Fine Crimped Edge**. See image above.

Card Tray

A small dish with handles, similar to the Bon Bon, where two sides have been pulled up (making a "U" shape in cross section).

Right: Millersburg's Holly Sprig in the **Card Tray** shape.



Celery Vase

A wide, open-necked vase intended for table use to serve heads of trimmed celery in. Similar items were also described as "traubenspulers" intended for washing grapes at the table.

Right: Brockwitz Curved Star **Celery Vase** or grape washer (traubenspuler) and an extract from the Brockwitz catalogue.





Centrepiece

A large bowl (around 10 inches or more in diameter), unruffled and with the edge slightly cupped in or straight up. It is this straight un-ruffled edge that distinguishes the centrepiece bowl from similar large items, such as orange bowls.

Chamberstick

A small candlestick with a carrying handle intended to be used to light the way to the bedroom (bed "chamber").

Chop Plate

A **Plate** measuring over 10 or 11 inches is considered a chop plate. The term chop plate is another name for a charger, underplate or service plate (these are the large plates that go underneath regular dinner plates in "fine dining" - you would not eat off a charger, it is simply to keep the main plate, which is likely to be hot, off the table). The charger / chop plate wouldn't have been made from material that was designed for food. And we have a theory where the term chop plate might have come from ... a "chapa plate" is an old term for a thin plate of metal. Could such a thin metal plate have been used as an under plate / charger? And the term chapa plate may have changed over the years to chop plate, meaning an oversized plate for serving.

Classic Carnival Glass

Original, early Carnival made in the USA from c. 1907 through to c. late 1920s. Carnival made in other countries in their original production is described by location, for example: Classic European Carnival Glass (i.e. original Carnival production in Europe dating from c. 1914), Classic Australian Carnival Glass (i.e. original Carnival production in Australia dating from c. 1924) and so on.

Collar Base

A flat, circular base; the **Marie** is the name for the centre of the base within the collar. The collar base provided a way of holding the glass item (**Snapped Up**) – so that the item could be hand-finished (re-heated, shaped, iridised etc). See photo below for a **Collar Base** on a **Ruffled** bowl.



Commemorative

Limited edition, **Contemporary Carnival** items produced by makers such as Fenton for specific events, people or places. Used extensively by Carnival Glass clubs for their annual convention souvenirs (to raise club funds).

Compote / Comport

A compote (also called comport and originally a comportier) is a dish with a stem and a base (plus in some instances a lid too) that could be used to serve nuts, fruits, jellies and confections. Not only was the compote a useful and multi-purpose item, it was also very decorative. Note that European stemmed sugar bowls are identical in shape to the compote form.

Near right: Northwood's Blossomtime **Compote** with a Wildflower exterior pattern. Note the **Threaded** stem.

Far right: Brockwitz Curved Star stemmed sugar bowl. The shape is virtually identical to that of **Classic** USA **Compotes**.



Contemporary Carnival Glass

Carnival Glass made from the 1960s to today.

Continuous Crimping

See Candy Ribbon Edge.

Cookie Jar

Lidded (covered) container for keeping cookies (biscuits) fresh. Also called a cracker jar.

Crimped / Crimping

Undulating edge shaping which varies from tight to loose.

Crystal

Often used to mean clear glass with no colour. Another term is Flint Glass.

Cullet

Broken (recycled) glass often added to the glass Batch.

Cuspidor

Another name for a spittoon, used for spitting chewing tobacco into (also used when TB was rife). The shape is usually a bowl that is pinched in then flared at the top. The name **Cuspidor** (or spittoon) **Shaped Top** is also given to vases where the neck is pinched in then flared out (see below).

Right: Millersburg's Hobnail Swirl Cuspidor.



Cuspidor Shaped Top

On the right is a Floral Sunburst vase by Eda, with a cuspidor shaped top. See **Cuspidor** for details.

\mathbf{D}

Damage

Glass, by its nature is susceptible to damage and a whole vocabulary has developed to describe damage: flake, flea-bite, chigger, rough spot, and even so-called "no-harm" damage. There is also damage from poor care over the years, and "wear and tear" to what is actually a very thin iridescent surface. On the other hand, Classic Carnival Glass has various features and blemishes that are due entirely to the way it was made. They are not damage as such, but they may be harmful to the glass – see Handmade Glass. Much more information on the features and defects of handmade glass in this article.



Decorated

Usually refers to painted, **Enamelled** designs on Carnival. Made in the **Classic** era as well as recent times. **Contemporary** decorated pieces were made extensively by Fenton, and generally signed by the decorator.

Depression Carnival Glass

Also called Late Carnival Glass – spans the era of production from the early 1930s up to the 1950s.

Dome Foot

A single, circular domed up base, often used by Dugan-Diamond.

Dope

Another word for the liquid solution of various metallic salts that is sprayed on to the hot glass to create the **Iridescence**.

\mathbf{E}

Electric (Iridescence)

Electric is when the iridescence has a very brilliant, luminous quality. In fact, it almost gives the appearance of being connected to the power supply. The term is used for blue Carnival (electric blue, as seen on the Good Luck bowl, right), however it is also used with reference to other colours such as purple, although the purist may disagree with that. "Electric" is also used to describe highlights on part of a piece.



Elephant Foot

Northwood Tree Trunk **Funeral Vases** have an additional unique height classification. A Tree Trunk funeral which was swung, but only to a height of 15 inches or less, is called an Elephant Foot. Thus, an Elephant Foot vase is a Tree Trunk funeral vase between 8 and 15 inches high. It was given this rather quaint yet descriptive name by John Muehlbauer of California some years ago. John named it thus, because he said it looked just like ... an elephant's foot! Simple as that. See **Swung Vases** for illustrations and more information.

Enamelled Carnival

See **Decorated.** The **Contemporary Carnival** Fenton Diamond & Rib vase below left, is enamelled (**Decorated**). Note it also has a **Jack in the Pulpit** (**JIP**) shaped top.





Epergne

A combination of bowl and one or more **Lilies** (sometimes also called horns) – the whole becoming a table **Centrepiece**. The bowl would hold fruit, the lilies would hold flowers. Above, two Wide Panel epergnes by Northwood.

 \mathbf{F}

Fake Carnival

Made with the specific intention of deceiving or misleading the onlooker to believe the item is an original piece of Carnival. It's important to distinguish fakes from **Reissues** and **Reproductions**. This is a good introduction that explains the differences – follow the menu tabs on the page to learn more.

Fernery

A straight-sided (or slightly cupped-in) container for a pot of ferns, which often had a tin liner.

Fine Crimped Edge

See Candy Ribbon Edge.

Finial

The handle or knob on top of a lid on a covered item.

Fire Polishing

Heating a piece of glass (usually in the Glory Hole) to polish and smooth it.

Flame

Large, broad **Flutes** on the rim of a vase or large bowl.

Flint Glass

Usually used to mean clear glass with no colour. Another term is **Crystal** glass.

Float Bowl

A large and impressive low bowl with a shallow profile intended to be filled with water on which would be floated flower heads. Examples are mainly from Australian and European makers.

Flutes

Flutes are the small gently pointed shapes on the outer edge of the piece. When they are very sharp and jagged the edge is referred to as a **Saw Tooth Edge**. When they are much bigger projections, as seen on punch sets and some large vases, they are called **Flames**.

Right: a fluted edge on a Northwood Peacocks bowl in **Pastel** marigold. The dotted texture you can see, a short distance in from the outer edge, is called **Stippling**.



Footed

Protrusions on the base that lift the item up – typically there are three feet (for stability). Variations include **Ball Foot** (**Scroll** and ball & claw styles) and **Spatula Foot**.



Ball Feet - ball & claw style



Ball Feet - scroll style



Spatula (spade) Feet

Frog

A holder for flower stems, also called a flower block or flower holder.

Frosted

A decorative technique producing a matt, icy effect on the glass surface by applying hydrofluoric acid. Sometimes achieved by sand-blasting.

Fruit Bowl

A large bowl, around 9 or 10 inches across, and deep enough to hold fruit.

Funeral Vase

A funeral vase is determined by the diameter or its base. Northwood and Fenton funerals have a base diameter of 5½ inches, while Imperial funerals run slightly smaller at 4¾ to 5 inches. Some funerals have a further classification relating to height – see **Jardiniere** and **Elephant Foot.**

Glory Hole

A small opening at the side of the furnace (where the glass is melted) – used to re-heat items to make the glass malleable so that items could be shaped etc. Also used to get colours to **Strike**.

Gob

A lump of molten glass, cut to the right amount and dropped into the Mould for pressing.

Golden Patterns

Clear glass items with **Intaglio** designs in rich marigold – made primarily in Poland by Zabkowice (a sought-after example of this genre is Diana the Huntress, right). Read our research and information <u>about them all here</u>.

Ground Base

Ground flat, sometimes with a mirror-like sheen. Often the grinding caused small chips and flakes on the **Stuck-Up** base. Such chips are caused by the method of manufacture and are very common on ground bases.



Diana The Huntress

\mathbf{H}

Hair Receiver

Typically this was a dressing table item intended for the storage of loose hair (from combs and brushes. It usually had a lid and a small round opening at the top. In Carnival Glass, an item called a hair receiver is usually the Persian Medallion rose bowl with a square top. However, our research has uncovered that this was probably intended as a **Rose Bowl**. Read all about it here.

Hand Grip

One side of a piece is turned up, so that it could be held easily. If two sides are turned up it can be called a double handgrip or a **Banana Bowl** shape. If three sides are pulled up it becomes a **Tricorner** shape.

Right: Northwood Wild Strawberry **Hand Grip** plate – one side only is turned up. This shaping was done with a wooden paddle while the glass was still hot and pliable, immediately after it was taken from the **Mould**.



Handmade Glass

Classic Carnival Glass was handmade and finished by hand, and the techniques used to make the glass could result in various features and/or blemishes. Some do not cause any harm to the glass, although they may be unsightly and thus affect the visual appeal of the item. However, when the features / blemishes exceed the variations in the glass intended by the glassmaker, they are rightly considered to be defects. The more serious ones may be terminal to the ultimate survival of the item — a detailed explanation of the terms used by glassmakers to refer to features, blemishes and defects was provided to us by the late Howard Seufer and they are explained and illustrated on our website: Handmade Pressed Glass.

Hat

The hat shape is so called because of its similarity to an upside-down, ruffled brim hat. Joan Doty, the vase expert, explained that hat is "a recent term—original ads referred to them as **Nut Bowls**, **Bon Bons** or violet vases".

Helios

Helios is an old, original term used by Imperial to describe green **Base Glass** with a silver iridescence. Described by Imperial in a 1911 catalogue thus: "the surface effect is that of metallic silver with shades of green gleaming through the silver."

Humidor (Tobacco)

A covered container with a close-fitting lid – inside the lid are three glass prongs which hold a damp sponge to keep the tobacco moist.

T

Ice Colours

Delicate **Pastel** shades, such as white, ice green and ice blue. An acid treatment prior to iridising gave a frosty rough feel. Not all ice examples have the pronounced frosty effect. On the right is an ice blue Peacock at Urn bowl by Northwood.



Ice Cream Bowl

Low and completely round with no edge shaping or **Ruffling** whatsoever—the pattern will be on the interior or upper side. The edge should cup in slightly. (These bowls would most likely have been used for ice cream, which would, of course, not be contained well if the edges were flared or **Ruffled**).

Ice Cream Shape (ICS)

A round, unruffled bowl that has a slight cup inwards.

Intaglio

This is where a design is created by cutting away unwanted areas of the **Mould** or **Plunger** and thus leaving the desired design raised up from its surface. The resulting pattern will be incised into the surface of the glass (as in many geometric designs).

Iridescence

The rainbow effect caused by the application of metallic salts on hot glass.

Jack in the Pulpit (JIP)

A shaping where the back is pulled up and the front is pulled down – seen mainly on vases (see below, left) but also bowls. It is imitative of earlier **Art Glass** styles, such as Tiffany and Quezal.



Jack in the Pulpit shaping Westmoreland Corinth



Jester's Cap shaping Northwood Thin Rib

Jardiniere

Used in two senses:

- (1) a **Funeral Vase** which was not swung is termed a jardinière (it is still classed as a funeral vase too jardinière being a type of funeral). Look at our <u>Fenton Gallery</u> for an excellent example of the Diamond & Rib jardinière. See also **Swung Vases** for photo.
- (2) in European Carnival, the jardinière was a narrow oval shaped bowl, intended to hold potted plants, and probably displayed on a window ledge.

Jester's Cap

Used on only a few vase patterns (Northwood) – where one point (or **Flute**) at the back is pulled up and all the others are folded down. See photo above (right).

L

Lampwork

A torch or lamp is used to melt the glass which is then shaped by hand using tools – also called flamework or torchwork. Beads, hatpins and small decorative articles were often made this way.

Late Carnival Glass

See Depression Carnival Glass.

Lettered

See Advertising.

Levay

Limited edition Contemporary Carnival made at various glassworks (eg Fenton) for the late Gary and Dodie Levi, trading as Levay and later as Intaglio Glass.

Lily

See Epergne.

Loving Cup

A large cup or chalice shape, with two or more handles, to be passed around in place of individual cups.

\mathbf{M}





Makers' Marks

On **Classic USA Carnival**, Northwood's N mark (N in a circle underlined) is the only maker's trademark regularly seen – Imperial also marked some of their Classic Carnival using, for example, the Iron Cross and Nu-Art marks. In Classic European Carnival, Riihimaki (see above), Karhula and littala sometimes put moulded trademarks on their glass, rare Sowerby examples are found with a peacock head trademark – and some Czech Carnival is marked with the country name, as is some Carnival made in South America and India. **Contemporary Carnival** is often marked, especially that of Fenton (see above) and Imperial. In Australia, Crown Crystal added Registered Design numbers to many of their items. Lots of interesting information about trademarks here.

Marlin

See Water Ambered Glass.

Master

A large main bowl in a set, or a large punch bowl in a pattern (i.e. Northwood's Grape and Cable) where smaller sizes were also made. In the case of punch sets, the term banquet size is also used interchangeably with master.

Metal

Another name for the hot glass **Batch** in its molten state.

Mid Size

Used when larger and smaller sizes are known, especially with reference to vases and punch sets (see **Master**).

Mould (Mold)

The outer section(s) of the apparatus that forms the glass items – creating an exterior design. A **Plunger** would fit inside the mould to make the interior design. Usually made from iron, but wooden moulds are also known. The parts that make up a metal mould are: mould (one piece or several hinged pieces) **Plunger**, base plate and top ring. Usually operated on a side-lever press. See **Pressed** for illustration. To see the entire process of mould making, go to this feature on our website

N

Nappy

A small dish (it can be **Collar Based** or **Pedestal Based**) that is round, **Ruffled**, or even heart or spade shaped, but the defining feature for today's collectors is that it has one handle. In the past however, a nappy was simply a round bowl (no handle). Australian Carnival collectors maintain the original meaning today, using the word "nappy" for small berry bowls.

Novelty

An item that was intended as an amusing or curious piece.

Nut Bowl

A deep bowl with straight (perpendicular) sides that may be flared out slightly at the top. The Dugan Grape Delight nut bowl (right) is an excellent example (shown here courtesy of Seeck Auctions). The term "nut bowl shape" is sometimes used to describe bowls that are deeper than those usually found in a well-known pattern, such as Dragon & Lotus.



()

Opalescence

The addition of bone ash to the glass **Batch** produced opalescence. When it was re-heated in the **Glory Hole**, the glass took on a white pearl-like effect on the outer edges and sometimes also on

thicker or protruding parts of the pattern. The opal effect varies from a delicate hint (as seen on some of the rare Fenton examples) to a denser, wider effect (as on most Dugan-Diamond examples). These contrasts were probably caused by the different methods of re-heating employed by the various Carnival manufacturers. When the opal effect occurs on clear glass with marigold iridescence it is known as peach opal; when it occurs on light blue-green glass it is known as aqua opal. These are the two main examples of opalescent finishes on Classic Carnival, but there are other rarer opalescent colours such as amethyst opal. Glassmakers produced more opalescent colours in Contemporary Carnival production.



Dugan Lined Lattice in peach opal

Pastel

Delicate shades, often used to describe the **Ice Colours**. Also used in reference to marigold, where the **Iridescence** has multi-hued, shimmering highlights. Northwood and Inwald made excellent examples of pastel marigold, as can be seen in the Northwood Good Luck bowl shown below.

Pedestal Foot / Base

A base with a short stem (see photo on following page).

Pickle

A pickle dish is a low, oval bowl. A pickle jar is a (tall) lidded container, often with a spoon hole in the lid.



Northwood Good Luck bowl in **Pastel** marigold with a **Pie Crust Edge**.

Pie Crust Edge

This distinctive edge shaping is a signature of the Northwood factory and used by no other Carnival manufacturer. The pie crust edge is so-called because it resembles the finger pinching found on the edge of home-made pies. Items with this delightful edge treatment are usually more sought after than those with the regular **Ruffled** edge.

Pitcher

A large jug, which, together with six tumblers, made a **Water Set**. Pitchers are sub-categorised as standard (table), bulbous (cannonball) and tankard shaped. Slightly smaller pitchers without a set of tumblers, were often called milk pitchers.

Plate

A plate is usually defined as being lower than two inches - another way to determine whether a piece is truly a plate is to turn it upside down onto the flat table. Virtually all parts of the edge should touch the table without any **Ruffling** or crimping. A further proviso is that the angle of the sides of the item should be nearly straight - with no curve on the outer edge. There are three main sizes of plate: small, regular and **Chop Plate**. More about plates and how they are defined here.

The 2-inch rule! The plate on the left is by Northwood – they are typically steeper and higher. On the right is a Fenton plate, shallower and lower. A plate can have feet, in which case the two inches are measured from above the feet.



Plunger

The apparatus that fits inside the **Mould**, and has the interior pattern on it. See **Pressed** below for more information. To see the entire process of mould making, go to this feature on our website

Plunger Base

See Swung Vases.

Poor Man's Tiffany

One of the many names for Carnival Glass (so called as it was a cheaper version of the expensive Tiffany **Art Glass**). To read how Carnival got its name, and to see the almost 100 other names it has been called. Click below to read the article all about it on our website.

Right: an extract from a 1911 ad for an iridescent (Carnival) vase. Note the description of the vase as "an exact reproduction of a high-priced Tiffany".

Special Saturday Only! Beautiful Iridescent Vase

An exact reproduction of a high priced Tiffany. With all the varied, shifting tints of a rainbow, words fail to exquisite beauty of design and

Pressed

Short for press moulded. Most Carnival was pressed into a **Mould**, using a **Plunger**, in a side lever press. Below is the Riihimaki mould for a Grand Thistle bowl – the pattern would appear on the exterior of the bowl





Side lever press with **Plunger** in place and a top ring and **Mould** beneath it.

Prunt

A small, decorative blob of glass that is **Applied** (fused) onto another glass item – often then impressed with designs such as a lion's head or raspberries. On Carnival Glass, shapes that look like prunts can be **Moulded** into the design, imitating **Applied** prunts.



Above, detail of the lower sections of two Curved Star **Celery Vases**, showing the **Prunts** that are part of the **Moulded** design. Note also the **Pedestal Feet**.

Punty / Pontil and Pontil Mark

A punty or pontil is an iron rod used for various purposes in the glass making process, such as gathering the hot **Gob** of glass from the **Batch**. It is also a tool for holding a partly made item whilst it is being further shaped, or hand-finished. A pontil mark is the visible scar on the base of the glass where the piece has been broken off the punty/pontil, unless the scar has been **Fire Polished** out.

R

Radium

A multi-coloured, shiny or mirror-like effect in the iridescence (Millersburg were particularly famed for this).

Right: a brilliant **Radium** iridescence can be seen on this Millersburg Grape Wreath Variant bowl.



Reissue

Reissue is used to describe new/**Contemporary** pieces made by the original maker. They could be from the old **Mould** (which may have been re-engineered or re-cut if they were worn or not working properly), or an entirely new mould based on the original pattern. For example, Fenton in the USA made a wide range of items in their old, original patterns, which mostly are marked with their trademark logo.

Reproduction

Reproductions are new/Contemporary pieces that are made from old or re-made/re-engineered Moulds by a different factory to the original maker (for example the pieces made by Summit using old Westmoreland moulds). Re-made moulds may be in different shapes to the original old ones, or have some pattern differences. Sometimes they will carry the new maker's mark (or signature) but not always. In some cases, Contemporary Carnival was made without removing the old, original maker's mark and there are false N marks on some reproduction Grape and Cable butters and Grape Delight Nut Bowls.

Rose Bowl

The definition of a rose bowl for the Carnival collector is any bowl which turns in at the top, whether it is **Footed** or **Collar Based**. The purist rose bowl collector will also insist that the bowl is as wide as it is tall. (**Nut Bowls** are similar in overall shape and size to rose bowls, but they are straight or flare slightly out at the top instead of cupping in). Generally rose bowls are fairly small, but scarce, large examples are known, usually going by the name giant rose bowls. This exact same cupped-in shape was also used in Europe for some sugar bowls. Often these items were multipurpose and may be listed in some of the European catalogues for both purposes.



Persian Medallion Rose Bowl

Ruffles

Ruffles are a gentle, soft **Crimping** that was used by all the manufacturers of **Classic Carnival** as well as the Australian and some of the European producers. The number of ruffles varies, though most **Classic Carnival** bowls in the 8 to 9 inch size will have 8 ruffles (but any number between 6 and 16 or more is possible). Ruffled edges may have further shaping, for example **Smooth** or **Fluted**.

S

Salver

Essentially a flat **Plate** on a **Pedestal Base** or stem. Usually in Carnival, these were intended as cake stands.

Right: Rindskopf's Diamond Ovals cake stand or **Salver**.

Satin

A matt effect in the Iridescence.



Sauce

A small bowl that has no Ruffles (or the sauce would flow out).

Saw Tooth Edge

A jagged, V shaped, pointed edge. See Flutes.





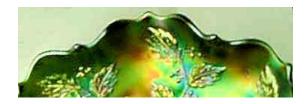
Above: on the left is a **Saw Tooth Edge** on an Imperial Scroll Embossed Plate on the right is a **Scalloped Edge** on a Millersburg Cherries bowl.

Scallop

Scallops are the semi-circular small curves around the edge of a piece.

Scallop and Flute Edge

A sequential combination of a long scallop followed by a shorter flute – seen on Fenton's Carnival and occasionally on Dugan and Crown Crystal Carnival. This edge shaping is sometimes wrongly described as a **Bracket Edge**, which is actually rather different, as the photos below show.





Above: on the left is a **Scallop and Flute Edge** on a Fenton Holly bowl – on the right is the intricate and seldom seen **Bracket Edge** on an Eda Dessin bowl (courtesy Fredric Hultman).

Scroll Foot

Also called **Ball Foot**: round shaped foot in a scroll style. See also **Footed** for explanatory photos.

Shear Mark

Also known as a **Straw Mark**, this is a short, straight mark, about an inch long, on the surface of the glass, roughly in the middle of the piece. The glass-maker used shears to cut off the **Gob** of molten glass as it was being dropped into the **Mould** ready to be **Pressed**. Because the blades of the shears were relatively cool, the act of cutting the very hot glass resulted in a fractional cooling and resultant hardening of the surface of the glass where it was cut. This caused a line on the glass – you can see it in the centre of the Pine Cone plate (right). The mark is most obvious where the design has large plain, pattern-free areas. Read all about the Shear Mark here.



Sherbet

A small dessert dish (usually broad and shallow in shape) on a short, stemmed foot - also known as a sundae dish or jelly.

Shot Glass

A small tumbler-shaped drinking glass usually for spirits. Other drinking glass shapes include cordial, wine and liqueur. It's not easy to define them for all patterns, as the sizing differs between makers. Imperial's Octagon, for example, has cordial, wine and goblet sizes which are: *cordial*: 3.5 inches high, slightly over 1.5 inches across the top, slightly over 1.5 inches across the base - *wine*: 4 inches high, 2 inches across the top, slightly over 1.75 inches across the base - *goblet*: 6.5 inches high, 3.25 inches across the top, slightly less than 3.25 inches across the base. The Czech Carnival maker, Inwald, produced a completely different range of sizes for their drink ware. Click here to read about an interesting array of shapes and sizes produced in Inwald's Jacobean pattern.

Smooth Edge

No **Fluting**, just totally smooth, as seen in the photo right, on this 6.5 inch Wishbone and Spades plate by Dugan.

Snap / Snapped Up

Items that had a **Collar Base** could be gripped in a tool with clamp-like spring loaded jaws called a "snap" whilst being finished off. This process was termed snapped-up. These pieces had no need to be **Ground** and they have smooth, **As Moulded** bases.

Spatula Foot

Spade shaped foot (usually three on a bowl). See also **Footed** for explanatory photos.

Spittoon

See Cuspidor.

Spooner / Open Spooner

A spoon holder used at the table. This shape was used in **Classic USA Carnival** as part of the four-piece **Table Set**, but is not used in European, Australian etc. Carnival.

Spill Vase

A small vase used to hold spills or tapers to light a candle or fire.

Squatty

A term often used to describe **Swung Vases** that have been only slightly swung – to around seven inches high or less – and thus are not as tall as they typically would be. Squatty is not an accurate term (and it's one we prefer not to use), as the height of the vases can vary, and of course, it is the diameter of the base, not the height, that determines the size of a swung vase. Our preferred term is "slightly swung" or "unswung" depending on the treatment the vase received. See **Swung Vase** for further explanation and illustration. You can <u>read more about the classification of swung vases here</u>.



Stippling

Tiny bumps all over the glass surface which give texture and enhance the **Iridescence**. A tool called a stipple punch was used to cut the indentations in the **Mould** that created the stippled effect on the finished glass. Different sizes of punch would produce different sizes of stippling. You can see stippling being created in this article.





Above: on the left is a detail from a Northwood Good Luck bowl showing the fine **Stippling** all over the pattern. Notice how it enhances the **Iridescent** effect. Stippled pieces are often more sought after than un-stippled versions of the same pattern (e.g. Northwood patterns such as Good Luck, Peacocks and Three Fruits). On the right is a detail from a **Contemporary Carnival** item, the Flowers of the World design (exterior to the Woodsland Pine) made by Fenton. Note that the **Stippling** on this item is larger than that on the Good Luck. You can <u>see how this was done</u> in this article.

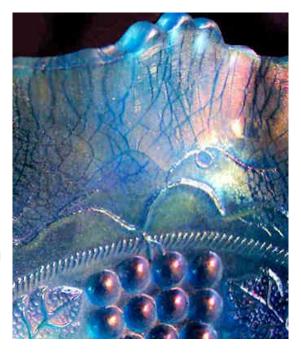
Straw Mark

A short, straight line on the surface of the glass. This kind of mark used to be called a straw mark because it was incorrectly believed that a piece of straw had gotten into the mould whilst the glass was being made and caused the mark. Another incorrect theory was that a piece of straw got stuck to the still-warm glass cooling in the lehr and caused the mark, and yet another incorrect notion was that it came from the straw that was used to pack the glass in. See **Shear Mark** for full, correct explanation.

Stretch Glass

A genre of glass, the name being derived from the appearance of the "stretched-out" cobweb-like **Iridescence** seen on it. Stretch Glass, though iridised, differs from Carnival in that it usually has little or no **Moulded** pattern or ornamentation. Note that for Carnival the hot glass was usually moulded and shaped before the iridescent spray was applied – but for Stretch Glass, the glass was re-heated and often shaped after the iridescent spray was applied (thus stretching and crinkling the iridescent effect).

It is possible to have stretch iridescence on Carnival Glass, which is sometimes described as an onion-skin effect and describes its crinkled appearance rather well (as shown on the celeste blue Fenton Grape & Cable bowl, right).



Striking

Striking is a fascinating technique used to achieve a special colour effect. It relies on the introduction of chemicals to the glass **Batch** that will ultimately change the colour of part or all of a glass item, when that portion of the item is reheated. The process was named "striking to another colour," or "striking" for short. Technically, striking is when the crystalline structure of the colouring agent alters upon controlled re-heating. The production of **Pressed** red Carnival, for example, was achieved by this technique.

Stuck Up

Glass items with a **Ground** base were attached to a hot metal **Punty** rod after being extracted from the **Mould**. The punty was heated so that the glass would stick to it. After being finished (shaped) and iridised, the piece had to be broken from the punty, and this left a rough base which had to be ground flat. The factory term for this was stuck-up.

Sweetmeat

See Candy Jar.

Swung Vase

A swung vase was taken from the **Mould**, briefly re-heated to make it elastic, and then literally swung (manually) to lengthen it. Because height is dependent on how much a vase has been swung or stretched, the size of a swung vase is determined by the diameter of its base, irrespective of its actual height. There are four broad groups of swung vases according to (base)size – mini, standard, mid-size and **Funeral**. Note that it is the diameter of the base, not the height that determines the size of a swung vase. Detailed information on the classification of swung vases (including the sizes) and much more is in this feature on our website. Further notes: (1) an **Elephant Foot Funeral** is less than 15 inches tall (2) a wide band around the foot of a vase is sometimes called a **Plunger Base** (3) a **Jardiniere** is an unswung **Funeral** vase.



Below: a Fenton Diamond and Rib Jardiniere - an unswung Funeral vase. It is as it came out of the mould, and only 6 inches in height.





Above: these Fenton #916 (Nine Sixteen) vases are all "standard" sized vases. The base diameter of each one is the same, although the height varies enormously, depending on how much they were swung.

Left: a Northwood Tree Trunk vase in the Elephant Foot Funeral shape, swung to just 12 inches high.

Photos at left courtesy Seeck Auctions.

\mathbf{T}

Table Set

A **Classic USA Carnival** table set comprises a covered butter, covered sugar, open **Spooner** and creamer. A Classic European Carnival table set comprises a covered butter, open sugar and creamer. Further variations can be found elsewhere, such as South America.



1910 ad for a **Table Set** alongside the real thing – Northwood's Grape and Cable. Courtesy Seeck Auctions.

Tight Crimped EdgeSee **Candy Ribbon Edge**.

Threading

A decorative technique by which hot glass was **Applied** by hand in a thin "thread", often in a twisting fashion. In 1885, John Northwood (Harry Northwood's father) patented a machine to improve the application of glass threads, making it easier and more uniform. True to the spirit of mass production, Harry converted the manually-applied threading into his machine **Pressed** Carnival Glass, using it on the stem of his Blossomtime **Compote**. See **Compote** for illustration.

Three in One

Three in One (3 in 1) also called three and one, is two small dips or ruffles and then one larger dip. Fenton and Dugan are known for making excellent examples of this edge (see Captive Rose 3 in 1 edge by Fenton on the right). Millersburg made their own version which was a little softer.



Toilet Set

Also known as dresser set or trinket set, and comprises items such as perfumes, colognes, atomisers, powder jars and ring trees. Other items that may be included are dresser trays, brush/comb trays, pin dishes, tumble ups and candlesticks. The Czech Carnival makers produced a wide range of dresser set items as the photo (below) of an Inwald Double Diamond dresser set shows.



Photo courtesy Seeck Auctions

Tri-Corner

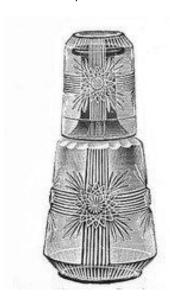
A three-sided shape.

Triple Doped

A heavy and vivid **Iridescent** effect caused by repeated applications of **Dope** (iridescent spray).

Tumble Up

A drinking set, comprising a water bottle (decanter) and tumbler that is up-ended on top as a cover/lid. On the right is a Brockwitz catalogue image from 1915 showing a Garderstern tumble up. These were also called Night Sets - and would have been placed on a night-stand (bedside table).



Uranium Glass

Uranium Glass contains uranium dioxide as a colorant, and when exposed to ultra-violet light, the electrons in the glass are "excited" which causes a vivid green glow (known as fluorescence). Uranium dioxide is believed to have been first used as a colorant for glass in the mid-1800s.

\mathbf{V}

Vaseline Carnival Glass

Vaseline Carnival Glass is generally understood to have a yellow-green **Base Glass** that reacts vividly under UV (**Black Light**) giving a transparent, vivid, yellow-green, fluorescent glow. It may have a marigold **Iridescence** that makes the base glass colour hard to see. A **Pastel** iridescence is sometimes found on Vaseline – such as examples by Northwood and Millersburg. Vaseline Carnival is **Uranium Glass.** Read some fascinating information about it here.



Above: a group of Vaseline (Uranium) Carnival Glass under a UV Black Light. The pieces are (left to right at the back): Fenton's Peacock and Grape, Imperial's Beaded Bullseye vase, Fenton's Horse Head Medallion bowl, viewed from the back to show the feet and Collar Base glowing. In the front is Northwood's Concave Diamonds tumbler - it has a more intense fluorescence as the iridescence on it is not as thick (and blocking) as that on the other pieces.

Variant

A slightly different version of a main theme (such as a pattern or a shape). Variants (unlike a **Whimsy**) were production line items, often arising from alterations to **Moulds** or new moulds (in the same pattern) being made to keep up with extended demand.

 \mathbf{W}

Water Ambered

Clear glass that has been iridised by spring waters or other similar means. Read about it in our article Marlin and Water Ambered Glass.

Water Set

A **Pitcher** and tumblers - the purist collector would expect six tumblers, but many modern day collectors consider one tumbler is sufficient (for display space considerations).

Whimsy / Whimsey

A modified version, usually in single numbers, often done at the whim of the glassmaker (hence the name whimsy). Below are three **Contemporary Carnival** unique whimsies made by Fenton for the (now closed) wwwcga, using the Thistlewood designs, Woodsland Pine and Flowers of the World. Top left, heart shaped **Nappy** in sea mist green – top right, black amethyst **Tri-Corner Cuspidor** shape, hand **Decorated** (enamelled). Bottom, a **Continuous Crimp** (**Tight Crimp, Candy Ribbon Edge**) **Rose Bowl** shape in red.







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APPENDIX

A selection of old newspaper ads featuring Carnival

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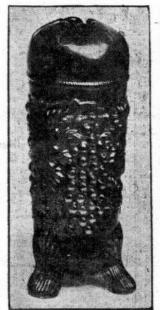
The ad above was featured over one hundred years ago, in the **1912 Washington Times**, but it still has the power to make you want to reach for the scissors and clip the coupon! Just look at all those splendid Fenton pieces. Would you have chosen the Heart and Vine plate or perhaps a crimped Captive Rose bowl with your dollar purchase?



This Imperial Lustre Rose (American Beauty Rose) fernery (above) was advertised in the **1912 Washington Times,** just above the Fig Newtons and the Peanut Butter! All you had to do was spend fifty cents on A & P's tea, coffee, spice or baking powder and it would be yours for the taking. Get your reduced price eggs, add some baking powder and spice for the simnel cake and take a free fern dish in "Opalescent Aurora Glass" (advertisers often confused opalescent with iridescent!)

Ladies, Only a Few Are Left-of **Hatpin Vases of Real Art Glass**

I F you want one of these Hatpin Vases, go early to the Chicago Examiner Premium Store nearest your home. There is nothing prettier of its kind than the Art Glass Hatpin Vases we are offering to Chicago Examiner Household Premium Coupon Clippers to-day (your last chance) as a Special, and priced so low as to make it doubly attractive as a money-saving proposition. These Hatpin Vases are meant for the ladies and this novelty, specially designed for the toilet table or the dresser, may be had by clipping this advertisement and presenting it with 15 cents at any of the Examiner Premium Stores and it will secure one of these beautiful vases.



These vases do not show their real and artistic beauty in the illustrations presented in this announcement. They are six inches in height, sloping from the three artistic glass standards gracefully, gradually and symmetrically to the top; it is seven inches round at the foot, to eight inches in circumference at the top.

These unique, new and novel Hatpin Vases are of opalescent and iridescent glass of the highest art type, made by one of the famous factories in the United States, noted for its fine productions of specialties in this line. While the price has been made especially low to Examiner readersless than one-half the regular price-these vases were made with the idea of regularly retailing at 50 cents. When you get one of these pretty toilet articles you are getting them at less than onethird their regular cost and at actual cost of making. These Hatpin Vases are especially priced to coupon clippers at 15 cents, provided the cash is accompanied by the ad cut from this paper. Ladies, this is a bargain you do not want to overlook. You will like this vase not alone for its utility, but for its real novelty and unique beauty. You are getting a genuine bargain when you get one of these hatpin vases for 15 cents and a copy of this ad. Go to the premium store nearest your home for this special. It is at all the 6 stores,



We have more than 200 useful and ornamental household articles to select from in our premium stores, all at an average of 50 r cent below regular retail prices. The Chicago Examiner Household Premium Coupon system means making your home beautiful at very little cost and a vast saving of money.

If You Are Not Already a Coupon Clipper From the Examiner, Commence To-Day.

LOCATION OF OUR PREMIUM STORES:

DOWNTOWN Framiner Premium Headquarters, No. 79 Washington St.
NORTH SIDE—No. 2019 Lincoln Avenue (Near Southport Avenue).

Mil Premium Stores, except Headquarters, open daily from 9 a. m. to 9 p. m., except S Take advantage of the special coupons, three of which are equal to 30 regular daily coupons. These will be printed every day until further notice. There is one in to-day's issue. Clip it.

The regular daily coupon is also printed in to-day's Examiner. Keep clipping the coup is; you will find it an easy way to beautify your bon

The above ad, from the 1911 Chicago Examiner, is amazing. All that the readers had to do was clip the coupons from inside their newspaper, and by paying just 15 cents they could have walked away from one of the Chicago Examiner's Premium Stores with a magnificent Northwood Grape and Cable hatpin holder. All the detail is shown in the above ad, and as we have reproduced it at a large size, readers can get the full details for themselves.

On the following page, a splendid ad from 1917, featuring Imperial's Carnival. It was aimed at wholesalers and was specifically targeting the carnival and showground traders. Look at the heading: SPARKLING RUBIGOLD IRIDESCENT GLASSWARE—YOU CAN'T BEAT IT FOR DRAWING A CROWD".

SPARKLING RUBIGOLD IRIDESCENT GLASSWARE

YOU CAN'T BEAT IT FOR DRAWING A CROWD



No. 1 FLASHLIGHT ASSORTMENT

Contains one dozen of each article shown above in our brilliant fiery red iridescent glass.

Total, 12 dozen pieces, costing complete (including package), \$7.80, or only 65 cents per dozen pieces, f. o. b. Bellaire, Ohio. Shipping weight 130 lbs.

Immediate shipment. Send money order with shipping instructions.

Imperial glass company,

Ask for Catalog No. 101 B.

Bellaire, Ohio.

CHRISTMAS IN AMERICA 1970



first issue-

Collector's Item

FENTON CHRISTMAS PLATE

"The Little Brown Church in the Vale"

Order your copy now for yourself and some for gifts . . . This is a limited edition and made in the finest tradition of the famous Fenton Carnival Glass . . . Complete with easel and history of the "Little Brown Church in the Vale" located at Nashau, lowa.

JUST ARRIVED ... LIMITED STOCK 12.50

From 1970, this newspaper ad shows Fenton's first Carnival Christmas "Church" plate

And finally, this rather splendid ad is from the British trade press in 1913. The Carnival Glass on offer was Imperial's – their Ripple vase and Imperial Grape bowls.



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