

Abstracts of Glassware

by *Jim Martin.*

A wood frame or plastic pipe frame is the cheapest and easiest for this setup. Experiment and build as you wish. I use 18 x18 in. plastic for the background. Experiment and build as you wish. (See schematic below.)

Needed:

- Camera with close-up capabilities to ½ life size or more.
- Tripod and cable release
- Party bulbs (These can be purchased at Safeway or any hardware store.)
Use four colors, or more as desired.

Film: I use Kodachrome ISO 25 or 64 usually, but Sensia works fine. Use what works for you.

Useful Ideas

- Stop aperture down to f16, f22, or f32.
- I use auto exposure first and then manual to be able to bracket.
- Shutter speeds will range from ½ second to one minute.
- Place yellow light farther away as it is sometimes a stronger color.
- I cover it with a white cloth or translucent material.

Lenses

- Prime lenses of single focal length
- Zooms, 70-210mm or 70-300mm, if they focus close., or use extension tubes.
- Macro lenses,90-105mm really work fine, and are ideal with extension tubes or a doubler.
- Extension tubes and teleconverters are useful to make a larger image in the camera.
- Close-up diopters are also useful and work best with prime lenses.

Other Items

- A clear plastic plate holder will be needed for some subjects.

Notes

- I do not use filters, but experiment might prove interesting.
- Change position of the lights and your subject for different effects.
- (Christmas tree lights could be used as an alternative to party bulbs. Another option is to use construction or other brightly colored paper lit directly and reflecting light through the glassware—Ed.)

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