



Beaded Bullseye Vases

By Beth Margerum,

Most Carnival Glass collectors will agree that from time to time they seem to be compelled to search for a specific pattern, and will accumulate multiples of the pattern they desire, only differing in shape, or color, or edge treatment.

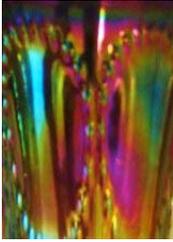
I've always been attracted to the graceful columns that are Beaded Bullseye vases, right from the start of my collecting days. Produced by Imperial Glass, and called #470, the pattern is fairly simple, a sleek rendering of convex circles surrounded by "beads", and additional raised oval areas and lines running horizontally to the base. Production of this vase, according to James Measell, started near or about 1909 and continued through 1915, and possibly beyond that date. The time span would speak to the relative availability of this pattern, and the many choices of colors. This pattern only comes in vases.



Beaded Bullseye vases come in a wide range of heights, starting with those pulled directly from the mold at about 6 inches (called squatty vases) to others swung to sizes in the teens.

The squatty versions are very popular with

collectors, as are the vases that have unusually flared tops. It's not easy to find this vase in virtually "untouched" from the mold condition. Most all were swung to some height taller than the molded height. The base widths are the same, at approximately 3-3/8ths and all bases have a twenty point star.



Imperial is known for the great beauty of its iridized purple pieces, and there is nothing more mouthwatering than a perfectly iridized Beaded Bullseye in purple. Some dramatic purple vases can be found with triple-doped iridescence--that is the colors in the iridescence don't appear random, but seem to be deliberately applied. The colors are consistent on each vase, but are different from one vase to another. Each bullseye on a particular vase may be blue, while the beads around it are green; another vase may have rose and green bullseyes with purple beads. Thus one NEEDS many purple Beaded Bullseye vases in one's collection. Done right, a vase that normally might sell for about \$120 can skyrocket to many hundreds of dollars! Generally, you can find a gorgeous example in purple for under \$150, and marigold versions, even pumpkin and delicious...can be found for under \$50.



Marigold and purple vases are fairly common and easy to find, followed by shades of green, amber, and lavender, with teal and vaseline (in my opinion) being the hardest to find. There is another shade of green which is difficult to describe, but when you see one, you KNOW. Auction brochures describe the color as emerald green, or green with blue iridescence, but neither phrase really describes it. "**Spectacular**" does, but that's not very helpful. I know of several smoke versions, but I've only ever seen one in that color. It is the only color that I am missing, so the search continues. There is still some room on the shelf, and besides, the hunt is part of the fun!

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