

Is Bullseye glass food safe? Does it contain lead or cadmium? by Mary Kay Nitchie, Bullseye Glass Co.

Below we have listed the Bullseye glasses that contain more than 1.0% lead or more than 0.5% cadmium. If you are using any of these styles for food-bearing objects, we recommend capping them with our clear glass. In our tests we have found that clear-capping results in minimal lead and cadmium leaching, well below FDA limits.

In our tests we have also found that transparent glasses leach lead/cadmium at levels below FDA limits, and much less than opalescent lead/cadmium-bearing glasses; so you may be able to use transparent lead/cadmium-bearing glasses without clear-capping. Our testing, however, does not cover all glass styles or firing conditions, and it cannot be taken as a guarantee of food safety when using these glasses.

If you are selling food-bearing objects, it is your responsibility to have them tested, since lead/cadmium leaching can be affected by the specific processes to which the glass is subjected. A heavily textured surface, for example, has more total surface area and, therefore, more area from which lead/cadmium may be leached. A local chemistry lab should be able to perform the necessary test for you, according to ASTM C738-94(2006) Standard Test Method for Lead and Cadmium Extracted from Glazed Ceramic Surfaces, for a relatively low fee of around \$30 to \$70 dollars per sample.

The following glasses contain more than 1.0% lead:

- 000243, Translucent white
- 000301, Pink
- 000303, Dusky lilac opalescent
- 000304, Lavender opalescent
- 000305, Salmon pink opalescent
- 000313, Dense white
- 000334, Gold purple opalescent
- 001205, Light coral striker
- 001215, Light pink striker
- 001234, Violet striker
- 001311, Cranberry pink
- 001305, Sunset coral
- 001332, Garnet red striker
- 001334, Gold purple
- 001823, Burnt scarlet striker
- 001824, Ruby red striker
- 001831, Ruby pink striker

The following glasses contain more than 0.5% cadmium:

- 000220, Sunflower yellow opalescent
- 000224, Deep red opalescent
- 000225, Pimento red opalescent
- 000227, Golden green opalescent
- 000309, Cinnabar opalescent
- 000310, Umber opalescent
- 000320, Marigold yellow opalescent
- 000329, Burnt orange opalescent
- 000337, Butterscotch opalescent
- 001321, Carnelian
- 001322, Garnet red striker
- 003203. Woodland brown opal, ivory and black streaky