

### Specific Gravity

*Specific gravity* is the relative weight of a substance compared to water. For example, a cubic centimetre of water weighs 1 gram. A cubic centimetre of soda lime glass (includes most window and art glass) weighs approximately 2.5 grams. Therefore, the specific gravity of these types of glass is 2.5.

Specific gravity is a very useful concept for glass casting artists who are trying to determine how much glass is needed to fill an irregularly shaped mould. If the mould holds 100cc of water then it will require 250 gm. of glass.

If filling the mould with water isn't practical (many moulds will absorb the water) then any material for which the specific gravity is known can be used. If, for example, the mould was made from a wax original and the weight of that original is known, the amount of glass required will be approximately 2.5 the weight of the wax. Why? Because most waxes have a specific gravity equal to that of water.