Tools and Materials List:

As used by Max Jacquard Studio 2021

Below is a list of some of our favourite materials and equipment and where to buy them:

Materials:

With materials it is normally only possible to buy in bulk. We find that it is simply uneconomical to buy small amounts as the carriage cost and import duty add a certain amount on top. The key is to get used to the materials you choose and work out how to use them strategically over time. Often a commission can give us the chance to buy a new piece of equipment or finance that big order of materials that will be used for a number of projects over the following months.

Casting investment:

Crystalcast: made and supplied by [www.grscastingpowders.com](http://www.grscastingpowders.com) contact [jwilliams@goodwingroup.com](mailto:jwilliams@goodwingroup.com)

Wax :

Green slush casting wax from British Wax Refining company [wax@britishwax.com](mailto:wax@britishwax.com)

They make two grades, a hard grade for summer and a soft grade for winter

Glass:

For coloured glass we mostly use [www.banasglass.com](http://www.banasglass.com)

For the clear/coloured mixes we are still experimenting but try Kugler ingots from glassworks services 01709 770801. You can mix these with the Kugler powders or with the Gaffer blowing colours now available from Gaffer Glass USA. [lacey@gafferglassusa.com](mailto:lacey@gafferglassusa.com) best to introduce movement into the casting to reduce the problems of slight incompatibility.

Tools:

Many of our tools come from [www.hisglassworks.com](http://www.hisglassworks.com). They offer an excellent service for supply and support.

We like the little Alpha Air 300 grinder. It fits the hand easily and can be run from an 11 or higher CFM Compressor. They also supply the Electrostatic diamond system from 3M that works very well on curved surfaces, the 50mm discs are very useful for finishing the inside of bowls, you can even cut slots in the disc to improve flexibility. These are short use, disposable discs that will wear out quickly but give a very consistent finish with

For backers we use a variety of flexible hook and loop pads that we get from [www.glasspolishshop.com](http://www.glasspolishshop.com)

They have an excellent selection and also supply the white cerium that has superior polishing ability.

For larger grinders and an excellent range of semi flexible tools that can be used for finishing castings check out [www.polpur.cz](http://www.polpur.cz) you can use their carborundum grit impregnated tools on lathes, flexible drives and electric grinders or air tools. You will need to experiment with what works for you.

The Flexible drive machine is also a much-loved tool in our studio. I favour the Foredom tools as they are really robust and built to last. We like the LX machine that has a higher torque and a lower speed you can get this from [www.cooksongold.com](http://www.cooksongold.com) along with the H44t handpiece that takes up to 6mm shafts or there is the H30 with a mini chuck that will take fine engraving burrs. We also like to use this motor with a Dial Up Control that enables us to stand at the bench and vary the speed.

With Flexible Drives it is important to have a well directed water supply so that you can always have water cooling the glass as you work. We find that the Loc-Line ½ inch hose kit is a good place to start. Look on ebay to find a good engineers supplier and also look for Y splitters and ball valve adapters so that you can connect it nicely to a standard hose feed from your water supply.