

Thanks for all of your answers via Instagram about what you wanted to know regarding the new tariffs coming into place, I have got some information for you, so please see below. The 10% tariff is correct for the UK, but if you are in another country please do seek further guidance on the specific tariff for your country, as it varies across the world, but this is the general guide for anywhere, just the tariff for non exempt items will be specific to your country. 😊

✅ Info for Glass Artists Shipping to the U.S. (Sept 2025)

Original artworks—including one-of-a-kind **handmade glass sculptures**—are currently **exempt from U.S. import tariffs**, thanks to protections for "informational materials" under U.S. law. However, glass items that fall into **functional** or **decorative** categories—such as **holiday ornaments**, **drinking glasses**, or **tableware**—are **not exempt** and may be subject to the **10% tariff** on imports (plus any additional country-specific duties).

Clear documentation is key to ensure correct customs classification and avoid unexpected charges or delays.

🔍 Key Points:

- ✅ **Exempt from tariffs:**
 - Original artworks (e.g. unique glass sculptures or installations).
 - Classified under **HTS code 9703.00.00**.
 - Must be **non-functional**, made by the artist, and primarily for **aesthetic appreciation**.
- ⚠️ **Likely not exempt:**
 - Items like **glasses**, **bowls**, **vases**, **ornaments**, or **Christmas decorations**.
 - These typically fall under **HTS Chapter 70** (glassware) and are subject to the **10% general tariff** introduced in April 2025.

📄 Documentation Tips

For Original Artworks (Exempt)

- Clearly describe the item as an original artwork:
 - **Example:**
"Handblown glass sculpture, original work by [Artist Name], dated [Year]"
- Use HTS code **9703.00.00**.
- Include this exemption statement on the invoice or declaration:

“Original artwork, exempt from duties under HTS Chapter 97 and IEEPA (50 U.S.C. §1702(b)(3)) as informational material.”

- List the **artist’s name, title of the piece, medium, year, and country of origin.**
- Optional but helpful: include photos or gallery representation documents if available.

For Functional/Decorative Glassware (Tariff May Apply)

- Clearly state the item type and function:
 - **Example:**
“Set of 4 handblown glass tumblers for drinking use”
“Glass ornament – Christmas tree decoration”
- Use the correct HTS code from **Chapter 70**, such as:
 - **7013.28** – drinking glasses
 - **7013.99** – decorative articles
 - **7018.10** – ornaments
- Declare the **material, intended use, and country of origin.**
- Be prepared for a **10% tariff**, and check if your country has additional duties.

Paying Tariffs on UK Shipments to the U.S.

- Royal Mail now offers a **Postal Delivered Duties Paid (PDDP)** service for shipments to the United States. With PDDP, the sender pays the U.S. customs duties and taxes at the point of sale—alongside a nominal handling fee of **50p per item**—so your customer won’t face surprise charges upon delivery [Royal MailThe Independent](#). Other UK carriers—such as Evri, DPD, FedEx, UPS, and DHL—typically support a **Delivered Duty Paid (DDP)** option, where duties can also be prepaid by the sender to streamline customs clearance [Parcel2Go.comHolly & CoSmith & The Magpie](#). If DDP/PDDP isn’t used, shipments go out as **Delivered Duty Unpaid (DDU)**, meaning the recipient is responsible for any tariffs, taxes, and handling fees upon arrival—sometimes causing delays or frustration [Holly & CoParcel2Go.com](#).

- **Quick Comparison:**

Carrier / Option	Duty-Payment Method	Notes
Royal Mail PDDP	Duties paid at dispatch + 50p handling fee	Recipient receives parcel with no surprise charges.
Other Couriers (FedEx, UPS, Evri, etc.) – DDP	Sender pre-pays duties and taxes	Smooth customs clearance; avoids recipient inconvenience.
DDU (any carrier)	Recipient pays duties and handling on arrival	May cause delivery delays and customer dissatisfaction.