

“Making a Spectacle” Student Supply list

For this workshop, we will explore the wide world of spectacles. I will show you my work, a broad range of slides that cover eyewear from all different angles, and demonstrate the processes that are specific to the low-tech fabrication of eyeglasses. I will bring lenses for you to buy for the workshop (\$15 for three pair), and some specialty eyewear items if you'd like to purchase them. In addition, please bring the tools listed below (*If* you have them... Don't go out and buy them if you don't already have them.) For this workshop, my goal for you will be for you to understand all the parts that go into designing and making your own eyewear, to make samples of some parts that I will walk you through (lens cutting, dying, rim making and some hinge parts). I find that students benefit most from getting lots of demos, visual information, and making samples rather than trying to create an entire frame—in fact, experience has taught me that it's “impossible” to expect to come from this workshop with a finished piece beyond the “prototype” stage. But that's a lot! And the best part about a workshop with students with a broad range of experience is that our collective brains will all get BIG!

I'm going to make a huge leap of faith that if you're already interested in spending time devoted to the study of designing and making spectacles, you probably already have some ideas: perhaps you're like me and a bit of a spectacle collector. I can't pass a cheap sunglasses display rack without wondering what the latest \$4.99 pair of glasses can do for my image; I'm guessing that you may have a similar affliction. Would you do me (and the class) a favor? Bring all those glasses you've collected over the years; the good, the bad and the ugly. I find that looking at as many potential design solutions as possible is the best way to avoid reinventing the wheel. Plus, another whole avenue of expression in spectacle design is embellishment of existing eyeglasses. The more ideas we can bat around, the better. Time goes fast! Let's brainstorm as much as possible.

Please bring your hand tools that you like to use:

(If there is anything on this list that you don't know what it even is, don't worry about it.

Experience has shown that we never need everything on this list, and if you don't have something that you need, there's bound to be someone in the class who has it.)

- jeweler's saw (bring assortment of blades of whatever you like to use)
- files (hand and needle files)
- drill bits (useful will be 52, 56, 70)
- small tap and die if you have (0-80 is most useful) (*don't buy one if you don't already have it*)
- small screwdriver if you have
- wet/dry sandpaper (220, 320, 400, 600, one sheet each), on sticks if you have

- Flex shaft (if you have one)
- Any bits for flex shaft that you like to use.
- Assortment of metal depending on what you think you might want to work in (I know, it's premature, but...some people have preferences)— if you have a small selection of **sheet, wire, tubing, of various types**, bring it. Eyewear making works with rather minimal amounts of metal, so you really don't need much. The most useful have proven to be:
 - 22 ga. copper, brass, silver sheet or fine silver (small pieces about 5mm wide x 4 inches long—these make nice rims for lenses and are useful prototyping material)
 - 14 and 16 gauge brass or nickel wire for prototype making
 - 20 ga. Brass sheet, 1 or 2"x6", for sample making
- dividers (or compass with pencil attached)
- xacto knife, and blades
- hand towel
- jeweler's pliers, and wire cutter
- mirror, a small one to prop near your bench will be handy
- permanent marker (Sharpie)
- ruler
- safety glasses (plus optivisor if you need one)
- scribe
- silver solder (H, M, E) (most likely, the two day workshop won't involve soldering)
- sketch book and drawing supplies
- graph paper
- super glue, epoxy
- miniature nuts and bolts if you have
- tracing paper

There are bound to be things that you'll want that aren't on this list, and each time I teach, I try to add to this list, so some of these things you certainly won't need. Mostly don't worry, even if you forgot to bring anything, we'd most likely be able to set you up with whatever you need.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at: deb@debstoner.com.

I look forward to teaching you what I know about eyewear.

Sincerely,
Deb Stoner