

the second go around. Paint that is trapped in open air bubbles, or in deep furrows, can be scrubbed out with a toothbrush and a drop of acetone or paint thinner. Use these solvents only in a well ventilated area and wear nitrile gloves.

A more planned and patterned approach called “mattng” is where a laid out area is abraded evenly with small “beads” of wheel cutting – think welding bead. The wheel used here would be a slightly rounded strap (flat) wheel, though a radius wheel might suffice. The main concern with the diamond radius wheels is the edge of the wheel, where it transitions from diamond to metal. Care must be taken not to gouge the grind of the lens with these corners on the wheel.

The “half round” (or “olive cut”) wheel will grind a rounded, oval trench into the glass. The oval is the basis for many engraving cuts, and it is a nice way to pattern large areas.

The “multi-miter” wheel engraves a succession of

small, parallel “V” lines into the glass, and is useful for cutting large swaths of parallel lines.

The “oblique edge” wheel has an asymmetric form, in which one side of the wheel is larger than the other. This wheel is a small cross section of a cone and the face of the wheel is diagonal. These wheels are used for sharpening corners within cuts, for producing off-center miter cuts, and for working the inner curves of a piece.

A more specialized wheel is the “concave” wheel, which is negative space of the half-round, olive wheel. These concave wheels work edges and corners particularly well.

The “line” wheel is a very narrow, sharp edged wheel that almost looks like a tiny saw blade. These wheels can be used as a saw, though to use it well there should be a solid support for the piece being sawn. It is very useful for drawing lines in the glass.

All wheels can be used in both coarse and smooth grades, commonly ranging from 100 to 600 grit. Wheels come in a variety of sizes, thickness, and

*Right: “Looking for Houses but Losing your Home” by Lienors Torre. Lathe engraved. Note the nicely “matted” surface in the design. (Photo: Timothy Ringsmuth)*

*Below: A glass form by Dick Ditore covered with battuto cutting. (Photo: Dick Ditore)*

