

Step Aside for the Table Size

A Guide to Heisey's Biggest Creams and Sugars

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Heisey was well known for producing numerous pieces with minor variations in style or size. Just look at a stemware line like Old Dominion that sported about 17 different drinking pieces ranging from a 1 oz. cordial to a 16 oz. soda or ice tea.

The Heisey cream and sugar world was no different. They produced individual and hotel sets (hotel being a style name describing a middle sized set between an individual and a table set as they were marketed for the home as well as hotels and restaurants). Other styles included sugar trays, single & double Domino sugar holders, dice or loaf sugar trays & creams, stack sets, sugar shakers, and ½ pint tankards. And the subject of today's program – the biggest items in the line, the table sets. (Like most all Heisey productions, there are exceptions to this 'biggest' claim but more on that later). Heisey never used the term “table” to designate a size of creams and sugars but collectors use the term for easy differentiation. Why so many styles? Various reasons but primarily the variety was a result of Heisey's attempt to provide its customers with purchase options and to match its competitors.

A Heisey table set, at minimum, includes a cream, covered sugar, covered butter, and spooner (Heisey just called this piece a “spoon”). These larger sized sets were a status symbol in their day and a way of saying 'we can afford the ingredients to fill these pieces'. Heisey table sugars always had lids. The large, footed ones are often thought to be candy jars – and Heisey actually used a couple for that dual purpose (again, more on that later).

Heisey table sets were produced by the company beginning in 1896 until they phased out around 1930. During this period butter was often home churned and rolled into round balls – a perfect fit for a Heisey butter dish and cover. The demise of the butter dish was caused by the introduction and popularity of refrigeration in homes and commercial establishments. Also, the introduction of commercially produced sticks of butter and margarine led toward less formality in the dining room – and they didn't fit well into a round butter dish.

Since table sets were produced in the early years of Heisey, they were available only in crystal and limited numbers in Opal, Ivorina Verde (Custard), Emerald, and Canary (Vaseline). I am not aware of any table sets produced in the later year colors of Flamingo, Moongleam, Sahara, Marigold, Zircon, or Dawn.

It's time to look at some style examples and some exceptions. You can follow along with the attached chart of Heisey table creams and sugars arranged approximately by production years.

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Heisey Table Sets

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						Other Styles Produced					
Pattern Name	Pattern Number	Production Years	Marked	Table Set Colors		Individual	Hotel	1/2 Pint Tankard	Domino Sugar	Stack Set	Sugar Sifter
Cut Block	1200	1896-1900	N	C		X		X			
Fandango	1201	1896-1905	N	C		X	X	X			X
Fancy Loop	1205	1896-1910	N	C		X	X				
Punty Band	1220	1897-1909	S	C		X	X	X			
Plain Band	1225	1897-1909	S	C		X	X				
Beaded Pnl & Snbrst	1235	1897-1913	S	C		X	X				
Groove & Slash	1250	1898-1912	N	C							
Peerless	300	1897-1957	Y	C		X	X				
Peerless	300.5	1897-1957	Y	C			X				
Pineapple & Fan	1255	1898-1907	Y	C, E		X	X	X			
Pointed Oval & Dia. Pt.	150	1898-1907	N	C, E							
Locket on Chain	160	1898-1906	N	C, CA, E, O							
Winged Scroll	1280	1899-1901	N	C, CS, E, O							
Bead Swag	1295	1899-1903	N	C, E, O							
Punty & Dia. Point	305	1900-1907	S	C		X	X				X
Ring Band	310	1900-1901	Y	CS							
Paneled Cane	315	1901-1906	Y	C							
Pillows	325	1901-1910	Y	C			X				
Prince of Wales	335	1902-1912	Y	C			X				
Touraine	337	1902-1909	Y	C							
Continental	339	1903-1910	Y	C			X				
Continental	339.5	1903-1910	Y	C							
Puritan	341	1903-1938	Y	C			X				
Sunburst	343	1903-1912	Y	C		X	X				
Paneled Colonial	342	1903-1924	Y	C							
Medium Flat Panel	353	1905-1929	Y	C			X				
Kalonyal	1776	1906-1909	Y	C			X				
Prison Stripe	357	1906-1910	Y	C			X				
Banded Flute	150	1907-1932	Y	C			X				
Queen Anne	365	1907-1912	Y	C			X				
Revere	1183	1913-1957	Y	C		X	X				X
Urn	379	1909-1912	Y	C			X				
Colonial Scalloped Top	400	1909-1923	Y	C			X				
Narrow Flute	393	1910-1944	Y	C		X	X		Footed		
Col. Cupped Scallop	397	1910-1913	Y	C							
Diamond Band	423	1910-1912	Y	C							

Heisey Table Sets Continued

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						Other Styles Produced					
		Pattern	Production		Table Set			1/2 Pint	Domino	Stack	Sugar
Pattern Name		Number	Years	Marked	Colors	Individual	Hotel	Tankard	Sugar	Set	Sifter
Recessed Panel		465	1915-1933	Y	C						
Eva		484	?	Y	C						
Marlene		4291	1919-1929	Y	C						
Dunham		485	1917-?	Y	C						
Tudor		411	1923-1939	Y	C		X				X
Approximate Total Cream & Sugar related items produced:											
106 Patterns											
184 Pattern Styles											
288 All Styles—All Colors											
Color Code: C=Crystal CA=Canary CS=Custard F=Flamingo M=Moongleam MR=Marigold O=Opal E=Emerald S=Sahara											
		Z=Zircon EX=Experimental Blue									