



Laboratory Guidebook Notice of Change

Chapter **new**, revised, or archived: MLG 10 Appendix 3.00

Title: Glossary of Glass Container Parts

Effective Date: 01/10/22

Description and purpose of change(s):

This Appendix is a glossary of Glass Container Parts issued in association with MLG 10 Examination of Heat Processed, Hermetically Sealed (Canned) Meat and Poultry Products.

**United States Department of Agriculture
Food Safety and Inspection Service, Office of Public Health Science**

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**Appendix 3
Glossary of Glass Container Parts**

From a manufacturing standpoint, there are three basic parts to a glass container based on the three parts of glass container molds in which they are made. These are the finish, the body and the bottom.

Finish: The finish is that part of the jar that holds the cap or closure. It is the glass surrounding the opening in the container. In the manufacturing process, it is made in the neck ring or the finish ring. It is so named since, in early hand glass manufacturing, it was the last part of the glass container to be fabricated, hence "the finish". The finish of glass containers has several specific areas as follows:

Continuous Thread: A continuous spiral projecting glass ridge on the finish of a container intended to mesh with the thread of a screw-type closure.

Glass Lug: One of several horizontal tapering protruding ridges of glass around the periphery of the finish that permit specially designed edges or lugs on the closure to slide between these protrusions and fasten the number of lugs on the closure and their precise configuration is established by the closure manufacture.

Neck Ring Parting Line: A horizontal mark on the glass surface at the bottom of the neck ring or finish ring resulting from the matching of the neck ring parts with the body mold parts.

Sealing Surface: That portion of the finish which contacts the sealing gasket or liner. The sealing surface may be on the top of the finish or may be a combination of both top and side seal.

Vertical Neck Ring Seam: A mark on the glass finish resulting from the joint of matching the two parts of the neck ring. Some finishes are made in a one-piece ring and do not have this seam.

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Body: The body of the container is that portion which is made in the "body-mold" in manufacturing. It is the largest part of the container and lies between the finish and the bottom. The characteristic parts of the body of a glass container are:

Heel: The heel is the curved portion between the bottom and the beginning of the straight side wall.

Mold Seam: A vertical mark on the glass surface in the body area resulting from matching the two parts of the body mold.

Shoulder: That portion of a glass container in which the maximum cross-section or body area decreases to join the neck or finish area. Most glass containers for processed foods have very little neck. The neck would be a straight area between the shoulder and the bottom of the bead or, with beadless finishes, the neck ring parting line.

Side Wall: The remainder of the body area between the shoulder and the heel.

Bottom: The bottom of the container is made in the "bottom plate" part of the glass container mold. The designated parts of the bottom normally are:

Bearing Surface: That portion of the container on which it rests. The bearing surface may have a special configuration known as the "stacking feature" which is designed to provide some interlocking of the bottom of the jar with the closure of another jar on which it might be stacked for display purposes.

Bottom Plate Parting Line: A horizontal mark on the glass surface resulting from the matching of the body mold parts with the bottom plate.