

# Millersburg Compotes

by Robert Grissom

*Motif Series*

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Many collectors prefer glass made by Millersburg, often considered the “crown jewels” of carnival. Compotes are among the prized shapes. They range in size from some of the smallest to some of the largest pieces in carnival glass; from the Leaf & Little Flowers and Olympic compotes to the giant Peacock and Urn. The Big Thistle punch bowl could also be considered a compote; it is a one-piece affair and no cups have ever been found.

The book *Millersburg Glass* by Marie McGee identifies twenty different compote patterns. Compotes were made in the common Millersburg colors of amethyst, green and marigold, plus an occasional blue and vaseline.

Some information for this article has been provided by Charles Mochel and Tom Mordini.



**Acorn (top).** The most common color here is vaseline, with perhaps eight brown. There are also examples in amethyst, green, and marigold.

**Fleur de Lis.** This one is green and the only example known in any color.



**Peacock and Urn.** One of the most dramatic pieces known in carnival, this compote is always ruffled and found mostly in amethyst and green—marigold is quite rare.



**Flowering Vine** is 7" tall and found with three different top shapes: square, round, and oblong. The round comes in amethyst, green, and marigold with one blue known. Two known with the square top. The oblong has been shown in a book on carnival.



**Tulip** stands about 9" tall and has no pattern other than the exterior flutes. Known in amethyst and marigold, it is the same shape as the Flowering Vine.



**Ohio Star.** This pattern is usually associated with the more often seen vase. About six of these compotes are known—only in marigold.



**Flowering Vine** is 9 inches tall. One each is known in amethyst, green, and marigold.



**Deep Grape** (right) is 7 inches tall and known in three different top shapes: Square and round which are found in amethyst, green, and marigold and a rosebowl shape known only in green. In addition, there is one ruffled example in amethyst.

**Olympic.** This one is only three inches tall. One each in amethyst and green are known. The compote mold is the same as for Millersburg's Leaf and Little Flowers except for the interior design that shows a wreath pattern and star in the center.



**Hobstar and Feather** whimsy compote in amethyst is probably close to the shape of the piece of glass as it came out of the mold. It is seen most often in a rosebowl shape and infrequently in a spittoon shape or a pulled up vase.



**Rosalind variant** (above). A very rare compote, 6" tall, and known in amethyst and green.

**Rosalind.** This one is 9" tall. Two each are known in amethyst and blue, three in green, and one in marigold.



**Hobstar and Feather.** This compote, 5" tall, was made only in marigold. The pattern was made in more shapes than any other Millersburg pattern.



**Dolphin.** Obviously this compote was named for the three dolphins that support the bowl, not the pattern on the interior—which is Rosalind. Colors known are amethyst, blue, and marigold, with only two known in blue.





**Boutonniere.** One of the more common Millersburg compotes, the Boutonniere is found in the typical colors of amethyst, marigold and green.

**Poppy** (at right) is also found in the standard Millersburg colors, though marigold is difficult to find, and the compote is occasionally seen in a flattened salver shape.



**Wildflower.** Two shapes are known in this 6" tall compote; straight and flared sides. The flared are found in amethyst, green, marigold, and a single vaseline example.



**Strawberry Wreath.** This compote is about 3" tall. Colors are amethyst, green and the single vaseline shown here. Note the unfilled leaf shown in the center back. Two compotes with straight sides are known: one each in green and marigold.

Glass courtesy of Don and Becky Hamlet, George and Mavis Loescher, Tom and Sharon Mordini, Pete Peters, Seeck Auctions, and Harold and Dolores Wagner.

Photographs by David Doty