### IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT BREAKAWAY GLASS PROPS



#### Please Read Prior to Use

We appreciate your business and hope that this product works perfectly for your needs.

Here's some tips to help you get the most out of your breakaway prop.

# USE CAUTION when working with breakaways! They CAN hurt you or others. Protect eyes at all times.

It is Very Fragile: This should go without saying, but sometimes customers are shocked with just HOW fragile they really are. Use extreme care in unpacking, handling, storing and using them.

**Storage:** Keep them in a cool place away from vibration, shock or rapid temperature extremes. Breakaway glass is susceptible to thermal shock which can cause cracking if subjected to high or low heat or fast change in temperature.



**Liquids:** Some props CAN hold liquids. None of our props are made from sugar and will not dissolve with water however, liquid introduces a few new factors: because of the added weight of the liquid, the prop is not even more fragile and can also be more dangerous to a performer. Also, be sure the liquid is the same temperature as the prop (IE room temperature) to prevent thermal cracking.

Labels: If your prop comes with a label, they will most likely NOT be affixed. They are provided for your to use at your option. They'll be packaged along with this information sheet. Use care to apply so that you don't break the prop. Sometimes clear cellophane tape is needed to help keep the labels on the props. Be sure to "clear" any bottles and labels for professional production use.

**Use of Props:** These props are meant to be used by trained performers. Always use eye protection. Breaking a prop on another person requires caution and evaluation whether it is being used safely. Strike props at their shallow and largest side. For example, a beer bottle should be broken on the largest section where a label would be, not at the neck where the material is thicker.

Protect your set and performers by removing broken material as soon as possible.

#### See reverse for Pro Tips

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For more info go to www.NewRuleFX.com, Call (818) 387-6450 M-F 10am-5pm PST or email ryan@newrulefx.com



## A few professional tips for getting the most from your breakaway props on screen or stage



Rehearse! You ordered early and you ordered extras right? Good! So now you can use these spare props to rehearse with all the actors involved. Breakaway props are one of the easiest and cost-effective ways to add really dramatic production value to your project, but executing the effect poorly because you bought only one prop is sure to lead to laughs instead of gasps. Rehearse the scene so that everyone is comfortable with the safety and performance of the prop.

Slow Down! The #1 misuse of breakaway props is moving too fast! If an actor is striking a prop against another object for example, slow the whole process down. This helps is several areas: It allows the audience a chance to see what the prop is, have a chance to register it as a dangerous looking item, and then be able to focus their attention on the resulting smash! Also this prevents the prop from breaking mid swing! If you swing a bottle too fast, it's possible it'll break off at the neck before it's reached the intended target. Slower smashes also result in larger pieces of scary looking shards!

Add a Back Light! Design the scene and action with breakaways so that the area of breaking action is strongly backlit. Backlighting, like it sounds, involves placing lights behind the action so the prop is illuminated strongly from the rear or "through" the glass. This will really help sell the breakaway as real glass or ceramic. The glinting reflections of light as the prop explodes will make a powerful impact on your audience.

Add Some Blood: Add a very small amount --1 ounce or less-- of fake blood (available at www.NewRuleFX.com) swirled inside a breakaway bottle. When the bottle is broken the broken pieces will have traces of blood that will seem like they were caused by the broken glass. As with all liquids and breakaways, make sure they are the same temperature so that thermal shock does not occur.



Be sure to follow all of the safety guidelines on the reverse side and have a SMASHing good show!

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