

HEAVY METAL FEDERAL LEGAL LIMITS FOR GLASS AND CERAMIC DECORATORS
November 1, 2004 (replaces earlier version)

FEDERAL STANDARDS	FLATWARE	SMALL HOLLOW	LARGE HOLLOW	CUP MUGS TUMBLERS	PITCHERS	FOOD CONTAINER	RESTRICTIONS
FDA CERAMIC LIMITS LEAD CADMIUM	3.0 ppm 0.5 ppm	2.0 ppm 0.5 ppm	1.0 ppm 0.25 ppm	0.5 ppm -----	0.5 ppm -----	----- -----	Food contact areas only, as tested using ASTM C-738-94 (reapproved 1994). Levels apply to each of six units tested. Except flatware which is the average of six tested.
FDA LIP/RIM LIMITS LEAD CADMIUM	----- -----	----- -----	----- -----	4.0 ppm 0.4 ppm	----- -----	----- -----	New limits adopted by SGCD are effective for ware decorated after April 1, 1999. Ware decorated before that day must comply with 25 ppm limit for lead and 1.75 ppm limit for cadmium that was adopted by SGCD in 1996. Applies to area covering the top 20 mm of tumblers, cups, mugs, as tested using ASTM C-927-80 (reapproved 1993) for each of 6 units tested.
FDA PURELY DECORATIVE WARE							The following is mandatory: Either 1) A hole must be bored through the food contact surface to render the item unsuitable for food use. -OR- 2) The ware must be labeled with one of the following messages: a. "Not for food use. May poison food" b. "Not for food use. Glaze contains lead. Food use may result in food poisoning." c. "Not for food use. Food consumed from this vessel may be harmful."

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Note: More detailed information on the standards described here can be found in the 2004 edition of SGCD's white paper entitled "Lead and Other Heavy Metals: Where Does the Decorating Industry Stand?" in SGCD's TechNoteBook, which can be obtained from SGCD's Public Affairs Office. After October 15, 2005, contact SGCD for the most current version of this document.