

# How is a custom panel made ?

**There are three phases:**

**Phase 1 – The Design phase**

where your involvement defines the style, color and special needs.

**Phase 2 – Construction**

based on the approved design.

**Phase 3 – Packing and Shipping**

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## **The Design Phase – the following steps are typical.**

**Your input is obtained as it relates to desired style, color and specific needs like privacy.**

**Using scaled sketches, send at scanned images, I obtain your feedback.**

**Usually 3 to 4 passes firm up your design needs.**

**Once a design is firm I offer a fixed price quote good for 30 days.**

**For special complex projects I may request a design fee That can be used as a credit towards a purchase.**

## **The Construction Phase – general comments**

**To start construction a deposit is requested, usually 50%.**

**I book work based on deposits received. At the time of a deposit I give an estimated ship date based on my work load.**

**Once started, construction usually covers a period of 5 to 8 days.**

**I send digital photos as construction proceeds.**

**When your panel is finished I send final photos. The balance is requested at shipping, usually a day or two after the final photos are sent.**

**I sign all my custom panels with my initials and the month and year , **GAM mm/yy**, so that when I'm famous you can prove you have an original.**

# **The Construction Phase – details**

**Step 1 – Generate a full scale drawing used for construction and to confirm glass segment size.**

**Step 2 – Cutting the perimeter zinc came which establishes the panel's size.**

**Step 3 (only some designs) – If the central element is a complex layout, like the Celtic Bevel Knots, I fabricate this section as a single unit to be integrated into the panel usually using copper foil and solder.**

**Step 4 – Glass segment cutting and grinding and the cutting and shaping of the lead came that surrounds these elements.**

**Step 5 – Solder the connections of the lead and zinc came.**

**Step 6 – Cementing the panel.**

**Step 7 – After 2 or 3 days, when the cement is dry, the panel is cleaned and then polished with a wax.**

# The Packing and Shipping Phase

## **Inner Shipping Box:**

**This is a sleeve box lined with foam wrap or bubble wrap with the panel inside. The box is strapped to a backing board for extra longitudinal strength.**

## **Outer Shipping Box:**

**The outer box should surround the inner box with at least 4” of shipping peanuts in each direction.**

## **Shipping Limitations:**

**For some design sizes a component design is required to meet safe shipping dimensions. Usually a single unit over 4 to 5 square foot would need to be made in sections.**

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