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Etcher designs artwork for automotive glass

For Robb Rich, glass etcher, car windows have become a canvas for flights of artistic expression.

Rich, of Cresskill, N. J., builds the design into the car glass by lightly etching with various drills and machines. It is a permanent, original work of art. Some customers become so attached to the etchings they have been known to remove the glass when their cars were sold.

The artwork ranges from simple designs in the side vent windows to complete picturesque scenes and nudes.

"The genius is knowing where to stop," Rich said of his more elaborate designs.

Another key is not making the work ostentatious, he said, and blending it with the natural lines of the car.

Rich has several goals, one of which is to eventually do a limited edition for an auto company. He said 1,000 cars, for example, would probably take "a couple of months" to complete. Each would have to be finished by hand.

He is also interested in working with dealers.

Rich works in different shops in the New York area but has his base at Elegant Motors, Englewood, N. J.

— JOHN RUSSELL



Class glass

The hand belongs to Robb Rich, a glass etcher from Cresskill, N. J. Here, he puts finishing touches on one of his creations.