70.15 - Clock or watch glasses and similar glasses, glasses for non-corrective or corrective spectacles, curved, bent, hollowed or the like, not optically worked; hollow glass spheres and their segments, for the manufacture of such glasses.

7015.10 - Glasses for corrective spectacles

7015.90 - Other

This heading covers :

(A) Glass, curved, bent, hollowed or the like, of any shape or size, with or without parallel faces, used as clock or watch glasses; it also includes all similar glasses for photograph frames and the like, medallions, hygrometers, barometers and similar appliances. In other words the heading covers a range of glasses of types normally designed to protect the dials or faces of the articles in question, even if in particular cases the glasses are intended for use as laboratory watch glasses or for the manufacture of mirrors.

When the above glasses do not have parallel faces, they may have certain optical properties, but whereas the primary function of the glass elements of **heading 70.14** is to produce a required optical effect, the main function of the goods of this paragraph is protection.

(B) Glass, curved or the like, for non-corrective spectacles (e.g., sun-glasses and other protective spectacles), i.e., glass generally of poorer quality than used for corrective spectacles.

These glasses usually have parallel faces, and are not intended, in practice, for optical working. Nevertheless, should they be optically worked they would be **excluded** (**heading 90.01**).

The glasses described in Parts (A) and (B) are mainly manufactured by the following processes :

(1) Glass is blown into a hollow sphere of a diameter not usually exceeding 80 cm. This sphere is divided into three or four parts which are in turn cut into small segments by means of a kind of diamond-tipped compass. The edges of each segment are then turned-in by hot-pressure in a mould.

(2) Small squares or discs are cut from flat glass; they are then curved either by softening in a concave mould or revolving ring under the action of heat, or by hot-pressure in a mould.

(3) The molten glass is poured directly into the mould of a mechanical press.

(4) A cavity is ground in one surface of a piece of round or rectangular (including square) flat glass to provide space for the clock or watch hands.

In addition to glasses shaped for use (round, oval or rectangular including square), this heading also covers hollow spheres and segments obtained by the process described in (1) above.

(C) Glass (including blanks, i.e. pieces simply pressed or moulded but not optically worked) for corrective spectacles. In most cases, the corrective spectacle industry uses glass obtained by pressing molten glass into blanks which are generally in the shape of the finished spectacle lenses. In some cases, spectacle lens blanks are obtained by cutting pieces of sheet glass produced by rolling or drawing processes and then softening these cut pieces in a furnace before pressing them into blanks. Blanks from either source require additional surfacing, mainly polishing, before they can be used as corrective spectacle lenses.

This heading covers blanks for corrective spectacle lenses, i.e., pieces simply moulded and not optically worked. Prior to moulding, this type of glass falls in **heading 70.03, 70.04, 70.05** or **70.06**, as appropriate.

The heading **does not cover** :

(a) Flat glass for the same uses (**headings 70.05, 70.06** and **70.07** in particular).

(b) Optical elements of **heading 70.14**.

(c) Clock or watch glasses specially prepared for laboratory use (pierced in the centre, ground on the edges to ensure airtight sealing, etc.) (**heading 70.17**).

(d) Glass for corrective spectacles or contact lenses, optically worked (**Chapter 90**).