

Amateur or Pro?

There's nothing wrong with being an amateur any more than there's anything wrong with being a professional. Each has different goals and each works in different ways. Some of the very best work is done by amateurs that make stained glass as a hobby. They enjoy the luxury of time and use it to good advantage. Amateurs don't care how long it takes to complete a project, but take pleasure in doing it. They have no reason to rush and can take however long is needed. The result is often work that's superior to that done by professionals.

The pro expects to be paid for his or her time, so must learn to work quickly. It's the speed at which they work that determines how well they are paid. They know that there is a limit to what a customer is willing to pay. If they demand too high a price, the customer will refuse to buy it. If they take too long to produce that work, they'll be poorly paid for their time. It's not that either the amateur or professional is superior to the other, but that each has a different goal. The amateur might often produce better work, but takes so long it would be impossible to make a living doing it. The professional tries to produce work to a set standard and work quickly enough to produce it at a price customers are willing to pay.

The greatest difference between amateurs and professionals is not in the quality of their work, but in how long it takes to produce it.