

## 60 years of Hongell's Aarne glassware

Göran Hongell designed the Aarne range of glassware in 1948, and it won the gold medal at the Milan Triennial in 1954. There were only four sizes in the original simple and stylish collection, because Hongell believed that four were sufficient to cover everybody's needs. The Aarne range has become a bar classic around the world, and remains popular to this day, underlining the success of Hongell's vision.



Hongell (1092-1973) joined Iittala – or Karhula-Iittala as it then was – as a glass designer in 1933, and became a full-time member of staff in 1940. He designed basic vases and art pieces, and made use of a variety of grinding and polishing techniques. The most well-known of Hongell's pieces, however, were produced using pressed glass techniques.

### Glass and stem in one

Hongell designed the Aarne range to be produced using press glass techniques from the start, and he developed the technology further to enable Aarne glasses to be produced in a one-stage process that moulded the stem simultaneously with the rest of the glass. This one-piece approach speeded up production and made the glass more durable as well.

The Aarne range rapidly became popular, and a fifth size was added in 1956 'by public demand. The range is seen as a classic example of modern glass design, combining functionality and simplicity, and many people use Aarne glasses today for cocktails and spirits to bring a little understated elegance to even everyday events.

### Aarne products 2008:

Cocktail 14 cl, Champagne 18 cl, O.f. 20 cl, Red wine 25 cl, D.o.f. 32 cl, Highball 35 cl, Beer 38 cl  
Pitcher 150 cl

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