

ABSTRACT

A glass blank is cut out from a glass plate by forming a crack starting portion inside the glass plate by moving a first laser beam relative to the glass plate such that a focal position of the laser beam is located in an inner portion of the glass plate in its thickness direction and the focal position forms a circle when viewed from a surface of the glass plate, then causing cracks to develop from the crack starting portion toward main surfaces of the glass plate, and splitting the glass plate to separate, from the glass plate, a glass blank that includes a separation surface having an arithmetic average surface roughness R_a smaller than $0.01\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ and a roundness not larger than $15\text{ }\mu\text{m}$. Thereafter, main surfaces of the glass blank are ground or polished.