Glassware washing in the Judelson lab

1. Safety:
   a. Place on the proper personal protective equipment: lab coat and/or apron, eye protection, and gloves. Let Howard know if you need more gloves (sometimes they get holes; spares are usually under the sink) or other items.
   b. Remind yourself of the location of the telephone, emergency exit, eye wash(es), safety shower, first aid kit, and broken glass disposal box.

2. Empty the carts by putting materials back on the shelves (if dry).

3. Fill one of the sinks with hot soapy water:
   a. start running the hot water.
   b. when the water starts getting hot, place the dam tube in the drain hole.
   c. add about 75 g of Contrex AP* washing powder to the sink and let fill up.
   d. turn off the water when the sink is about half full.
   (the amount of water and detergent can be adjusted depending on the amount of materials to wash)

4. Place dirty items gently in the sink.
   a. you can start before the sink is full.
   b. before handling glass, quickly check it for cracks (we normally dispose of broken glass, no need to wash it).
   c. If the item contains liquid or crud, try to dump it down the drain before adding to the soapy water.
   d. let the materials soak in the detergent for 2-15 minutes (longer for items with caked-on crud; the green scrub pad may also help with these).

5. Wash and rinse the items
   a. scrub the items using an appropriately-sized brush**, or sponge.
   (if the item does not come clean, let is soak longer)
   b. you may need to refill the sink with more soapy water, if you have a lot to wash. A lack of suds is one indication that new soap is needed.
   c. place the scrubbed items in the "empty" sink.
   d. rinse 3 times with regular water (cold).
   e. rinse 1-2 times with deionized water; the goal is to cover all surfaces, inside and out, with deionized water.***

6. Place the items on the glassware cart and allow them to drip-dry.

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*Slightly alkaline; pH of a1% solution is 9.5-11.

**Do not use brushes that are so worn that their metal parts scratch the glassware. Discard the old brush, and see Howard for a replacement (these are normally under the sink).

***It is very important to rinse the glassware well, to eliminate detergents and salts that may interfere with enzymatic reactions, growth of lab organisms, etc.