

CERAMICS 2 FINAL EXAM REVIEW

Damp, leather hard clay is cool to the touch.

When working on a project, always keep it bagged.

Clay is **bone-dry** when all of the water has evaporated from the clay and it is ready for the first fire.

A finished project needs to dry for several days before being fired.

NEVER fire clay that is slightly damp...it will explode.

Bone-dry clay can be recycled into new clay by soaking it in water.

Fire Shrinkage or the amount of clay reduction in size is caused by drying.

Clay shrinks when it dries.

Clay will shrink again after it is fired.

When clay has been fired once it is called **bisque ware**.

Cracks in a clay body will expand when heated.

Fired clay is breakable.

A glaze firing is usually the last firing.

Glazes can be shiny or glossy and matte.

Glaze is a term used to describe all liquids (only for clay) painted on to clay.*

The best way to test a glaze is to create a test tile.

Wedging clay before you use it removes the air from the clay body.

It also creates a homogenous form (brings all of the elements in the clay together).

You should always wedge (or clay pre-wedged clay) before using it on the wheel.

Ceramic “glue” or **slip** is used to bond two pieces of clay together.

Scoring and slipping is necessary when joining two pieces of clay together.*

Scoring is scratching the surface that we are going to attached. Slipping is adding watery clay to ensure that it adheres.

You need to score, slip, and smooth so that the two clay bodies will stay together.

Clay is fired in a **kiln**

An electric kiln is used in our art room. Kilns can also be gas kilns.

This type is heated with radiant heat through elements.

Firing ceramics is similar to baking a cake. Time and temperature together are what determine the end result.

Two preventative measures to prevent your project from exploding in the kiln is to be sure it is dry and that there are no air bubbles present in the walls of the project.

Coil construction is the layering of ropes of clay to build walls, support seams, or decorate.

Slab construction is when clay is rolled out or pressed into “sheets” of clay.

A **slab roller** is a device that rolls out sheets of clay.*

Hard Slab Construction is created by joining leather-hard pieces of clay together.

The stage best for slab building is called **leather hard***

Soft Slab Construction is created by draping a soft piece of clay over a mold.

Pinch construction is forming clay by pinching it between your thumb and fingers in your hand.

Throwing is a term used for using clay on a potter’s wheel.

Centering on the wheel is the first step for using a wheel.

When centering, your elbows need to be kept against your body.

Opening is the second step to using the wheel.

You should never leave a puddle of water at the bottom of a thrown vessel.

A loop tool (ribbon tool) is used to trim the bottom of a pot created on a wheel.

Working from memory is never as accurate as working from a reference.

Other things to know!

Be able to describe how to use the coil method

Be able to describe how to use the hard slab method (how to build a lantern)

Be able to describe how to throw on the wheel (how to throw a cylinder or bowl)