

Stations to visit:

Pug Mill

Kilns:

1. Gas Kiln
2. Electric Kiln

Tools

1. Needle Tool
2. Kidney Tools
3. Wire cutting tool
4. Sculpting tools
5. Cutting tools

Storage Room (320)

1. Clay
2. Plaster forms and molds

Wet Storage Room (319)

Glazing Area

1. Glazes
2. Brushes
- 3.

Sinks

Wedging Table

Class Supply Storage Cabinets

Potter's Wheels

Stages of Clay

1. Slip
2. Plastic
3. Leather hard
4. Greenware
5. Bisque (bisqueware)
6. Glazed Pottery (Glazeware)

Pug Mill

A machine in which materials (such as clay and water) are mixed, blended, or kneaded into a desired consistency. Dry and wet clay can be mixed together to create PLASTIC clay. This is one way we recycle used clay.

Fact:

The first pug mill was invented and used in 1824.

Gas Kiln

Can you find...

- Peep Hole: Hole or port in a kiln used to look inside the kiln during firing.
- Kiln Furniture: Shelves and pillars used to support clay works during firing

Other parts of the kiln include:

The **Pyrometer** which measures the temperature,

Dampers, which are sliding panels which can be opened or closed to control temperature, and levels of oxygen in the kiln during firing.

Fact:

Your pottery may be fired to temperatures as high as 2167 degrees Fahrenheit. Only the teacher will be controlling the firing of the kiln.

Electric Kiln

This is used to fire your ceramic pieces. The clay will be heated until it hardens and becomes Earthenware. This kiln will be fired to almost 2000 degrees (cone 04).

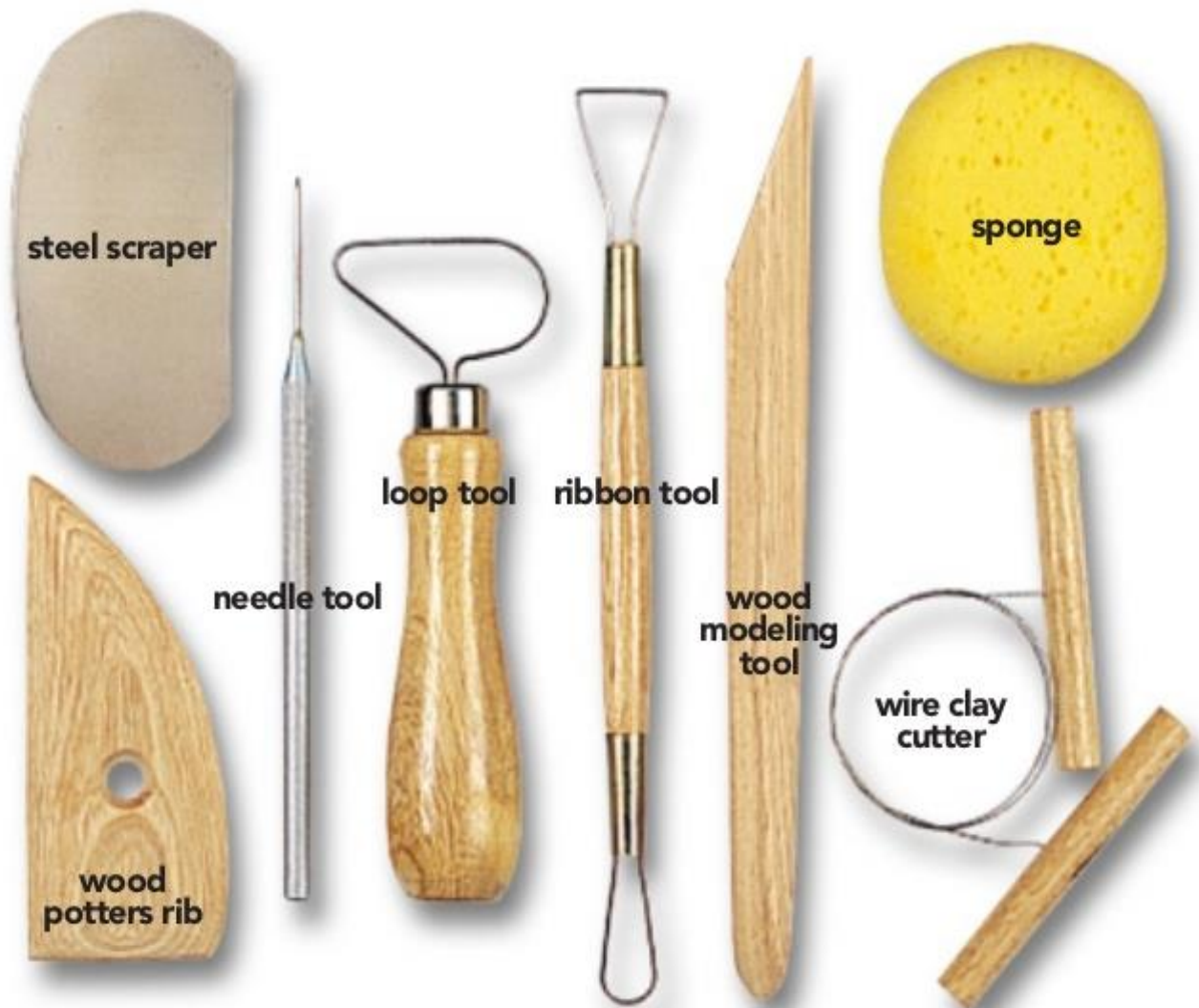
Your works will be fired **two times**. Once to harden into **bisque**, and secondly after applying glazes.

Clay Tools

These are used to cut and shape clay.

Tools can also be objects normally used for other things such as spoons, chop sticks, old gift cards that are cut into shapes or cut into patterned edges.

ceramic vocabulary



Storage Room

Items that are stored here include glazes, new clay, molds and plaster forms, stains and other items used for ceramics

Clay

Is made from:

alumina + silica + water = clay

Wet Room Storage

This room is used to store clay projects you are working on, so that they will not dry between classes. Each period has their own cabinet.

It is important that when your project is done, you uncover it and place it on the shelf to be fired. It is your responsibility.

Plaster Forms and Molds

These are used to shape clay upon. They are heavy and fragile (easily broken). It is important not to use sharp tools on plaster. It will be damaged easily, and plaster pieces in your clay will cause it to explode in when firing in the kiln.

Glazing Area

This area is for glazing your ceramic wares (pottery). Glazes come in many different colors.

Glazes can be applied with a brush, or by dipping pieces in a bucket of mixed glaze. It is important to “**dry foot**” your pottery, by coating the bottom with wax, so that no glaze is on the bottom.

No dry foot=no firing!

Dry foot your pottery **first** with wax.

Glazes need to be closed tightly so they will not dry out. Do not mix glazes in containers, use a clean brush between colors. Mix glazes before using.

Brushes need to be washed with warm water and soap until they are completely clean. They should be stored with the bristles pointing up.

Sink Area

This area is for washing hands, tools and other supplies.

NO CLAY GOES IN THE SINK!!!

All clay should be recycled in the correct areas. Clean sink at the end of class. Nothing should be left in the sinks ever.

Wipe down the counter around sink with a sponge at the end of each class.

Wedging Table

This area is for wedging clay which means:

to knead the clay getting rid of air pockets and making the clay into an evenly “**plastic**” consistency.

The wedging table is plaster, so it absorbs water and dries clay. Do not use tools on this table.

The wire is for cutting clay into pieces.

Class Storage

Each period is assigned a cabinet. This is the only cabinet you will access. Your boxes, supplies, tools and aprons will be stored here. Cabinet is only unlocked during your class period.

You are responsible for putting your supplies away at the end of each class inside of your box.

Potter's Wheel

The wheels we have may be used with electric motors or by kicking manually.

Wheels may only be used **after** you have watched a video, demonstration by instructor, and passed a quiz on wheel procedures and clean up.

Fun Fact: The invention of potter's wheel is unclear. It was invented as early as 3,000 B.C. in China, Mesopotamia and Europe.

Stages of Clay

Slip- liquid clay

Plastic- soft and flexible

Leather hard- not dry, but hard

Greenware- dried, unfired clay

Bisque (Bisqueware)- has been fired once; it can no longer be recycled.

Glazed Pottery (Glazeware)

fired twice and has glaze on it.

Check out the differences...