



OHATTER

CAPE POTTERY SUPPLIES - P O BOX 36, STEENBERG, 7966

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From Retreat Branch

Hello Everyone ©

Times flies! I have been at Cape Pottery Supplies for over six months now......It has been great meeting the customers of C.P.S and working with my colleagues here.

I have been interested in why ceramics crack and discovered there are a few reasons for this.

Cracks in the clay are a result of stresses in the clay. There are some stresses in clay as it shrinks when it dries. Clay also expands and contracts during firing which can also cause stress in the clay.

The way a piece is constructed can either minimize or contribute to cracking. The form of the pot may encourage cracking e.g. sharp corners are prone to cracking.

Different clays can handle different amounts of stress without cracking.

Fast drying will tend to cause more stress than slow drying.

Variations in thickness will set up stresses since the thin areas dry faster than the thick. This is when a pot base is thicker or thinner than the walls. This will sometimes show as a circular crack around the bottom of the pot.

Over firing a pot multiple times will make a pot susceptible to cracking.

A thick layer of glaze on the inside of the pot and thin or no layer on the outside will cause stress—spiral crack up the sides. This is referred to as a spiral dunt.

If a glaze pools on the inside of a pot, tension is created and the pot may split or crack across the base.

Regards Karen

From Kathy at Montague Gardens branch

Well we are all into the swing of potting. Winter is slowly creeping upon us; hope you are all taking those vitamins to keep the winter bugs away....

Tip on keeping your kiln shelves clean:

Firstly, clean off all the old glaze etc., that might be sticking to your shelves, then apply batt wash (which we sell), mix 1kg batt wash with 1½ litres of water, brush onto shelves and do a quick firing say up to 700°C, so that the batt wash draws into the shelves...this should be done on a regular basis to keep your shelves looking good.

There seem to be a lot of customers who are having crazing problems. Here are just a few explanations:

Crazing is one of the most common problems related to glaze defects; it appears in the glazed surface of fired ware as a network of fine hairline cracks. Crazing is caused by the glaze being under too much tension, this tension occurs when the glaze contracts more than the clay body during cooling. Because the glazes are a very thin coating, most will pull apart or craze under very little tension.

Crazing can make food safe glazes unsafe and ruin the look of the piece...

There are two types of crazing i.e Immediate Crazing: appears when piece is removed from kiln. Delayed crazing: appears weeks/months later. Tip that might be useful to avoid these issues:

Doing a slower firing to temperature and a slower cooling process will help eliminate this...

If any other problems arise and you need help don't hesitate to call us. We will assist in any way we can.

Regards Kathy

From Aalbe in Somerset West

Why are the cones numbered from 022 to 42?

When cones were invented over 100+ years ago, ceramics were fired at temperatures starting around 2000 degrees. No one envisioned firing ceramics at lower temperatures, so the first cone number they made was given a 1 and they went up from there to 42. As the industry evolved, we figured out how to fire ceramics at lower temperatures. The cones were formulated for these temperatures but a numbering system needed to be created. Edward Orton Jr. did not want to use a minus sign for numbering the new series of cones so instead he used a zero. The new cones were designated 01 to 022, 01 being the hottest cone in the new system and 022 the lowest.

What is Heatwork?

Heatwork is a term used to describe the combined effect of time and temperature on the ware you are firing. Firing ceramics is very similar to cooking a cake. In many recipes, we must choose a temperature setting and also a time. For example, a cake recipe will say cook at 375 for 45 minutes for a sheet cake. However, if you were making cupcakes, the time is reduced to 30 minutes. It will take less time to cook the cupcakes since the heat is absorbed faster into smaller items. In ceramics, you must also allow the ware to absorb heat for a period of time. You cannot fire porcelain by placing it into a kiln set to reach 2232F in one hour. It would be grossly underfired. An additional 19 hours would be required to mature the porcelain.

Information quoted from

www.ortonceramic.com

(All temperatures in the paragraphs are in Fahrenheit)



WORKSHOPS COMING UP AT THE SOMERSET WEST BRANCH

Colour in Clay

Colouring clay can be both fun and frustrating at the same time. Wedgewood used this technique and had incredible results. A lot of other artists use coloured clay in their work. I will walk you through the process of colouring your clay. Then the fun begins! Elsabe Nel-Harries

A three-day workshop. **All materials and tools provided.**

The course will run over 3 weeks, every Wednesday, beginning 28 May through to 11 June 2014.

Cost of the course is R 600.00

Colour in Glaze

Elsabe Nel-Harries will guide you through colouring a glaze and explain about various ingredients of glazes and how colour is achieved.

A one-day workshop. **All materials and tools provided.**

The course will run on Wednesday 18 June 2014 Cost of the course is R 200.00

Watercarving & Carving

Come – let me let you in on this seldom used, but versatile and fun, technique. It will add another dimension to your work by creating a 3D feel to it. I will shed light on how to make use of resist mediums on greenware as well as on bisque. The sky is the limit! Elsabe Nel-Harries

A three-day workshop. **All materials and tools provided.**

The course will run over 3 weeks, every Wednesday, beginning 23 July 2014 through to 6 August 2014.

Cost of the course is R 600.00

ALL WORKSHOPS

Times: 9.30am to 12pm.

Venue: Cape Pottery Supplies

3 A Stuart Close, Somerset Business Park

Somerset West

All prices are VAT inclusive.

An exceptional spread of tea/coffee & delicious cake/biscuits will be provided!

NB: Seats are limited to 10 only - so based on a first come, first served basis.

Your payment secures your position. In the event of less than 5 people booking for the course, a full refund will be given. Refunds will be given if cancellations are received prior to the start of the course: 50% deposit if a week or less notice given, otherwise full refund.

Book now with Aafke tel: 021-852 3548

fax: 021-852 8344

email: aafke@capepotterysupplies.co.za



SPECIALS

Annual Element sale for the month of May 2014 - 10 % discount off our standard list element price items.

ANNUAL BOOK SALE
June 2014 - 15 %
discount off all our
books whilst stocks
last.



From Craig's desk

One thing about life is that change is certain. This year we were confronted with the sudden closure of the Crammix brickfield which for the past 40 years has been a source of the finest stoneware clay bodies.

The city perimeter has caught up to the mine and the mine has been sold off for the development of housing.

In recent memory the same thing happened with Serina. This has brought us to the point where we have had to source new and alternative clay bodies. From our experience with Serina we have today a larger bouquet of white bodies using a variety of kaolins from around the world giving our clients a broader choice to exercise their creative skills.

This too is happening with the stoneware bodies which we are presently developing.

We look forward to your feedback both positive and negative.

Happy Potting! Craig



Ceramics SA (Western Cape)

31 Oct - 30 Nov Art in Clay Festival Franschoek

Cape Town: World Design Capital and Ceramics SA

November 2014 will see an explosion of ceramics in the Mother City as CSA Western Cape celebrates Cape Town's World Design Capital status with a month long programme of ceramics under the banner:

From African Earth; a celebration of ceramics. This is a World Design Capital approved project # WDC 670

The following exhibitions and events will take place in November 2014

- I) Corobrik National Exhibition opens on Sunday 16 November and runs until 6 December 2014 at the Great Cellar, Alphen Estate, Constantia.
- 2) CSA- Iziko collaborative exhibition; From African Earth; a celebration of our African vessel heritage. Opens at the Good Hope Gallery, Cape Town Castle on Thursday 13 November and runs until January 2015

This exhibition will have two components': (a) an heritage exhibition of African vessels from the Iziko collection and (b) an exhibition of vessels made in the same style by CSA members .

- 3) Rust-en-Vrede and the Clay Museum in Durbanville will be hosting an **Anglo Oriental retrospective exhibition**, an **invitational contemporary exhibition** of work in the same genre and in the CUBE an **exhibition of tea bowls** inspired by and in the style of Anglo Oriental ceramics.. **This exhibition opens on Tuesday evening 11 November 2014 and closes on 11 December 2014**
- 4) Magdalene Odundo Workshop on Saturday 15 November.
- 5) The Art in Clay Festival in Franschhoek opens 31 October to 30 November 2014
- 6) Juliet Armstrong Legacy exhibition 16 November to 6 December 2014 Great Cellar foyer, Alphen
- 8) Open Studios Project November 1st to 31 December 2014
- 9) Ukusela ekapa project (Greater Cape Town)
- 10) Zizamele and Emerging Artists Collective Exhibition (Masiphumelele, Noordhoek)
- 11) Potters Market 22 November (this is a World Design Capital approved project # WDC 577)

Please check our website www.ceramics-sa-cape.co.za for details on workshops, exhibitions and markets. Booking forms under Downloads.



PAN EVENTS 2014

JUNE Entries to be handed in for Bank Windhoek Triennale

OCTOBER 17.10.14 Entries to be submitted for CSA National Exhibition

NOVEMBER 16.11.14 Opening of CSA National Exhibition *

Cape Town 22.11.14 Demonstration Workshop by Magdalena Odundo in Windhoek

Windhoek & Swakopmund DVD evenings Dates to be confirmed



FOR SALE

POTTERY EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Harper's gas kiln 8 cubic ft
Hand-held pyrometer
R395
Electric front loader kiln 3.5 cubic ft
Controller (Model A3 ramp)
R740
Harper's slab roller
R13150

Also lots of kiln furniture, hand tools and glaze ingredients at bargain prices.

Contact Anna Marie Shutte on 028 271 5326 or 072 176 4734

Looking for 8 cu. Ft electric kiln front loading.

Contact Maxi Heyman: 021 556 3485



Cape Pottery
Supplies agents and
distributors of



AMACO and BRENT products for South Africa.