

**Vocabulary**

**Bisque ware**

- Clay that has been fired to a sufficient hardness, changing it from dried clay to a hard porous state prior to glazing.

**Body**

- The term used for the mixture of clays that make up the basic material of the pot together with any added sand or grog.

**Burnishing**

- Smoothing and polishing a clay or slipped surface with a smooth hard object such as a stone or the back of a spoon, to compact the clay so it forms a hard shell.

**Clay**

- a decomposed granite-type rock; To be classed as a clay the decomposed rock must have fine particles so that it will be plastic. They are classified into various types, such as ball clays, fire clays and slip clays. Pure clay is expressed chemically as:  $AL_2O_3 \cdot 2SiO_2 \cdot 2H_2O$ .

**Coiling**

- a hand method of forming pottery by building up the walls with ropelike rolls of clay and then smoothing over the joints

**-Glaze**

- A mixture of silica, alumina, and flux applied by brushing, pouring, dipping and spraying on to the surface of a pot to make it impervious to water and create at the same time a decorative pleasing quality when the glaze is fired.

**Green Ware**

- Pots that are hard but has not been bisque fired

**Hand building**

- Forming pots without using a wheel, by coiling, pinching and slabbing.

**-Kiln**

- a furnace made of refractory clay materials for firing ceramic products

**Leather hard**

- Stiff damp clay that can be turned, trimmed, cut and joined while it is still moist yet hard enough to handle without being damaged.

**Pug mill**

- A mixing machine for clay, which is then extruded as a large round coil and will extract the air bubbles from the clay in the process.

**Shrinkage**

- Contraction of the clay during drying and firing. This varies from clay to clay; fine particle clays such as porcelain shrink the most. Grog added to clay will reduce shrinkage.

**Slabs**

- Clay sheets rolled out and allowed to harden when they can be cut and handled, perhaps being joined together with slurry to form flat-sided constructions. Soft slabs can be draped over or inside molds and left to harden in that shape.

**Slip**

- Liquid clay mixture with water, sometimes called an engobe, originally used as a light color over a dark body. Mixed with colorants for pouring, brushing, dipping and trailing to create a great variety of decorative processes.

**Stoneware**

- A hard stone-like ceramic material formed when the clay is fired into a semi-vitrified state at 2190°F (1200°C) and over.

**Wedging**

- Kneading and mixing clay with the fingers and heels of the hands in a rocking spiral motion which forces out trapped air pockets and develops a uniform texture to remove air bubbles before commencing throwing or hand building.