



**HIGH FIRE**

**(CONE 10)**

**GLAZING**








# When will my pot be done?

- “High fire” glazes are fired in the large brick kiln to a temperature of 2380° Fahrenheit.
- It takes about 24 hours to reach that temperature.
- It take about 3 days to cool down to the point we can open the kiln and remove the finished pots.




Soooo.....•

- About 4 days after the firing begins pots will be ready to remove from the kiln.
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# Check your pot

- Before any pot can be prepped and glazed it must be *bisque* fired.
  - Never try to glaze an unfired or *greenware* pot.
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# Step 1: Wax



1. Brush wax on the pot wherever it touches when you put the pot on the table. That will usually be the entire bottom.
2. Wax up from the bottom  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch to create a **safety zone** in case the glaze runs so it will not stick to the kiln shelf.
3. If it is not on the bottom, wax over your name and class period.
4. If your pot has a lid, wax where both the lid and the pot touch each other.
5. Allow the wax to dry for 3-5 minutes.



# Why Wax?

- Heated to 2300° f in the kiln the glaze turns to molten glass. When the kiln returns to room temperature the glaze resolidifies. If any glaze resolidifies where the pot came in contact with the kiln shelf or where the lid and pot touch each other it will fuse the pot to the kiln shelf and require costly repairs or replacements of kiln shelves



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- The wax is dyed a green color so you can see where it is on the pot. In the firing it will melt off completely without leaving a trace of the wax or the green color.
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- Be careful when applying the wax. Wax dripped down the side of a pot is nearly impossible to remove and glaze will not stick to those areas.

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- Waxy fingerprints will also keep glaze from sticking.
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# Step 2:Wet

1. Quickly dip your pot in and out of a bucket of water to dampen the entire surface inside and out.
2. Allow the pot to dry for 30 seconds to 1 minute.



# Why Wet?

- Dipping the pot quickly in to a bucket of water removes any dust from the pot that might keep the glaze from sticking to the pot.
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- A bit of moisture in the pot will allow the glaze to coat more evenly and smoothly. A dry pot when glazed will often bubble and leave pit marks in the glaze, orange peel, or coat too thickly which may crackle and cause the glaze to peel off.

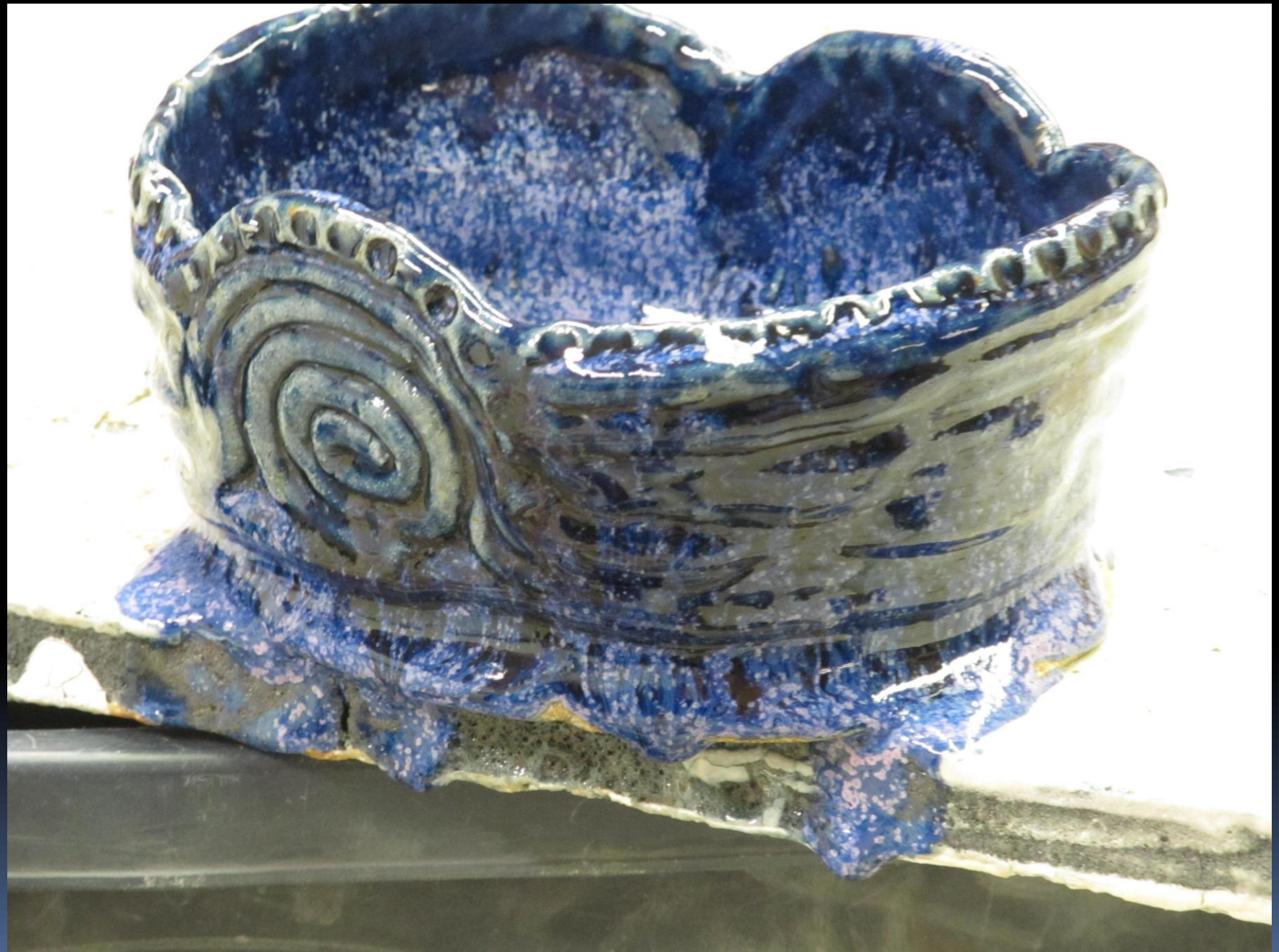
# Step 3: Glazing

1. Make sure the glaze in the bucket has been thoroughly stirred.
2. Hold the pot so when dipped the glaze will flow inside and out.
3. Dip the pot into the glaze halfway or more and quickly and smoothly remove it from the glaze. Allow glaze to dry 1-2 minutes.
4. Repeat on the unglazed side overlapping the first side. Allow to dry.
5. Wipe all glaze from waxed areas with a clean damp sponge.





















# Notes About Glazing

- There is no need to get any glaze on your fingers. Dip the pot up to your fingers, let the glaze dry, rotate the pot and do the same thing to the other side.
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- Don't splash glaze around it may stain clothes.
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- Only use one color glaze per pot. When two glazes or more overlap it will melt at a lower temperature and run down the side of the pot ruining your pot and an expensive kiln shelf.

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- Although the wax will repel the glaze and keep it from sticking to the pot, droplets of glaze will often remain on the wax. Always be sure to wipe down all waxed areas with a clean damp sponge to remove any glaze on waxed areas.






# Step 4: Correct Shelf

1. Each shelf on the cart has a small “bridge” on it, place your pot on the shelf with the bridge that your pot will pass through without touching the underside of the bridge. Your pot should also be *above* the red area on the leg of the bridge.
2. Place the pot on its shelf and move it as far towards the back as you can to make room for other’s pots.



# Why the Correct Shelf?

- Pots need to be loaded into the shelf according to size. Pots that are too small waste space and pots that are too tall are crushed by the shelf above or may end up stuck to it. Either way it will damage an expensive kiln shelf.
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- When all the pots have been placed on the correct kiln shelf they can be very rapidly loaded into the kiln and fired. This will allow you to get your pots back sooner.

# Review:

1. **Wax** where you do not want glaze. (Always on the bottom)
2. **Wet** the pot. (Quick dip in the bucket).
3. **Glaze** by dipping the pot into the bucket of glaze.
4. **Wipe** waxed areas clean.
5. Put pot on the **correct shelf**.

