



KILN BASICS VOCABULARY



-  **CANDLING** Lower temperature stage of some firing cycles used to complete the drying of the ware.
-  **ELEMENTS** An element converts electricity into heat. A current passing through the element wire encounters resistance resulting in heat produced by the wire.
-  **FIRING** To heat in a kiln, a term used for "cooking" the clay.
-  **FUSION** A process in which the joining surface of clay and glaze interact during a firing
-  **KILN** A furnace/ oven built of heat-resistant materials for firing pottery- heat is produced by electricity, propane, natural gas, or wood.
-  **KILN CEMENT** A refractory material with structural properties used to repair chips in the floor brick of your kiln.
-  **KILN FURNITURE** Refractory shelves and posts upon which ceramic ware is placed while being fired in a kiln.
-  **KILN SHELF WASH** A refractory material used to protect the surface of kiln shelves from glaze run damage. It is designed to chip away glaze drips easily and should be reapplied in thin coats regularly.
-  **KILN SITTER** A manual kiln that uses a mini cone or bar cone to trigger the "off" function of the kiln at the completion of firing. It has manual temperature switches and an analog pyrometer.



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KILN SPURS

Supports, often in the shape of a tripod, used to separate pieces of ceramics during the firing process.



KILN VENT

A motor fan and duct system that captures and vents fumes, odors, and heat from the kiln.



MATURING TEMPERATURES

The temperature at which a glaze exhibits its best qualities.



OXIDATION FIRING

A firing in a kiln that retains an oxygen environment.



PYROMETER

An instrument used for measuring or reading high temperatures.



PYROMETRIC CONES

A firing in a kiln that retains a low oxygen environment.



REFRACTORY

An electrically controlled switch that turns the relays on and off.



SELECT FIRE

A digital controller programmed to fire a kiln.



THERMO- COUPLE

A thermocouple is a thermoelectric device used for measuring temperature that consists of two wires of different materials connected at two points. Similar to a thermometer.