Clay And Glazes For The Potter

CLAY AND GLAZES FOR THE POTTER

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My purpose in writing this book has been to present in as clear and understandable form as possible the important facts about ceramic materials and their use in pottery. The ceramic medium has a rich potential. It is so various and adaptable that each culture and each succeeding generation finds in it a new means of expression. As a medium, it is capable of great beauty of form, color, and texture, and its expressions are unique not only for variety but for permanence and utility as well. To make full use of the medium, the ceramist or potter not only needs skill, imagination, and artistic vision, but he also needs to have a sound knowledge of the technical side of the craft. This knowledge has not been easy to come by, and many of those seriously engaged in pottery have learned through endless experimentation and discouraging failures. It is hoped that the present work will enable the creative worker to go more directly to his goal in pottery, and that it will enable him to experiment intelligently and with a minimum of lost effort. While technical information must not be considered as an end in itself, it is a necessary prerequisite to a free and creative choice of means in ceramics. None of the subjects included are dealt with exhaustively, and I have tried not to overwhelm the reader with details. The information given is presented in as practical form as possible, and no more technical data or chemical theory is given than has been thought necessary to clarify the subject. This work is organized as follows:

Part One — Clay
Chapter I. Geologic Origins of Clay
Chapter 2. The Chemical Composition of Clay
Chapter 3. The Physical Nature of Clay
Chapter 4. Drying and Firing Clay
Chapter 5. Kinds of Clay
Chapter 6. Clay Bodies
Chapter 7. Mining and Preparing Clay

Part Two — Glazes
Chapter 8. The Nature of Glass and Glazes
Chapter 9. Early Types of Glazes
Chapter 10. The Oxides and Their Function in Glaze Forming
Chapter 11. Glaze Materials
Chapter 12. Glaze Calculations, Theory and Objectives
Chapter 13. Glaze Calculation Using Materials Containing More Than One Oxide
Chapter 14. Calculating Glaze Formulas from Batches or Recipes
Chapter 15. Practical Problems in Glaze Calculation
Chapter 16. The Composition of Glazes
Chapter 17. Types of Glazes
Chapter 18. Originating Glaze Formulas
Chapter 19. Fritted Glazes
Chapter 20. Glaze Textures
Chapter 21. Sources of Color in Glazes
Chapter 22. Methods of Compounding and Blending Colored Glazes
Chapter 23. Glaze Mixing and Application
Chapter 24. Firing Glazes
Chapter 25. Glaze Flaws
Chapter 26. Engobes
Chapter 27. Underglaze Colors and Decoration
Chapter 28. Overglaze Decoration
Chapter 29. Reduction Firing and Reduction Glazes
Chapter 30. Special Glazes and Glaze Effects

Book Information

File Size: 5031 KB
This book has been my "ceramic bible" for the last 30 years. The best book on the market if you are really interested in clay and glazes technology. I have read it over and over during the last 30 years and it is at the base of my own book: "Substitutions for raw ceramic materials", for sale on .com. Every ceramist should own one.

This is the book we all learned from, over the years i have re-read parts that started to make sense to me, I was growing with the book. People ask me questions all day long, 90% are answered in this newly updated book, gone are the lead glazes of yesterday, welcome are new ingredients like cadycal.

Everything you ever wanted to know - and more - about clays and glazes. If you just want a quick introduction to the topic, you should skip this book. If you want a well-written, very thorough, and very clear explanation of basic ceramic principles, this is it. If you want to go even further, delving into the intricate complexities of specific clay and glaze formulations, that's all here too.

this book is quite informative of clays, glazes, colorants, temperatures and many little details that a
ceramicists needs in order to experiment and produce different effects with various materials. This book is very helpful and easy to read.

This is a great introduction into clay and glazes for anyone with even the slightest interest in the medium. It's easy to read and gives tremendous amounts of information. I'll be referring to this text for years to come.

I would agree that the original text is a five star volume, a classic book on ceramics. My one star review is based purely on the extremely poor quality of the illustrations. The description states that the book is "Profusely Illustrated". However, the images appear to have been photocopied over and over from the original edition, so much so that all the detail of the images has been lost! The description of the book does clearly state "2015 Reprint of 1957 Edition", which it is, but how anyone could put out a book with such poor image quality is beyond me. If you have an older edition of this book save your money and continue to use your old worn copy!

If you are a potter, and are interested in the "why" of things, you need to read this book. It contains many scientific answers to those "why" questions, and provides some formulas for "how" to make your own glazes that perform in a consistent manner. It is easy to throw ingredients together and hope for the best. But it is through scientific formulation and dedicated testing that a potter can make some glazes that perform as expected time after time. The book also provides some troubleshooting if your glazes underperform. This is your reference for all things scientific in clay and glaze formulation.

Perfect book for beginners as well as teachers. Clearly written how-to instructions accompany photos of finished products. This is a book I bought over a year ago and I still refer back to it for inspiration and instruction.

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