

Ceramics Presentation

What is clay?



What is clay?

- decomposed granite type rock with fine particles
- Has other particles that give it color and affecting its firing temperatures.



Clay is a “sticky soil”.



Clay Mine



Clay Deposit in River Bed

Clay Deposits: Where clay is found naturally
(Clay mines, River beds, etc.)



Skyrim



Alabama

What are *Ceramics*?

Objects that have been made from clay and exposed to heat (the firing process)

Handbuilding Techniques

Pinch



Slab



Coil



1. Pinch Construction

2. Coil Construction

3. Slab Construction





Pinch Pot

Forming clay by squeezing the fingers to the desired shape.

2:29 - More Complex
pinch pots



3 Handbuilding Techniques:

1. Pinch Construction

2. Coil Construction

3. Slab Construction



What is coil construction?



What is coil construction?

- **using hands to roll out rope like lengths of clay**



Coil:

Using hands to roll out a rope like length of clay that you can build upwards with.



Review: How to make a coil:



watch until 1:50

Building with Coils:



start at 2:36 and show the
smoothing of the coils

3 Handbuilding Techniques:

1. Pinch Construction

2. Coil Construction

3. Slab Construction



Slab:

A handbuilding building technique, using rolling pins to create flat sheets of clay. These can be cut to form patterns and assembled into forms.



Slab Construction: Hump Mold



watch first 1:30

Slab Construction: Slump Mold



Slab Construction with a template:



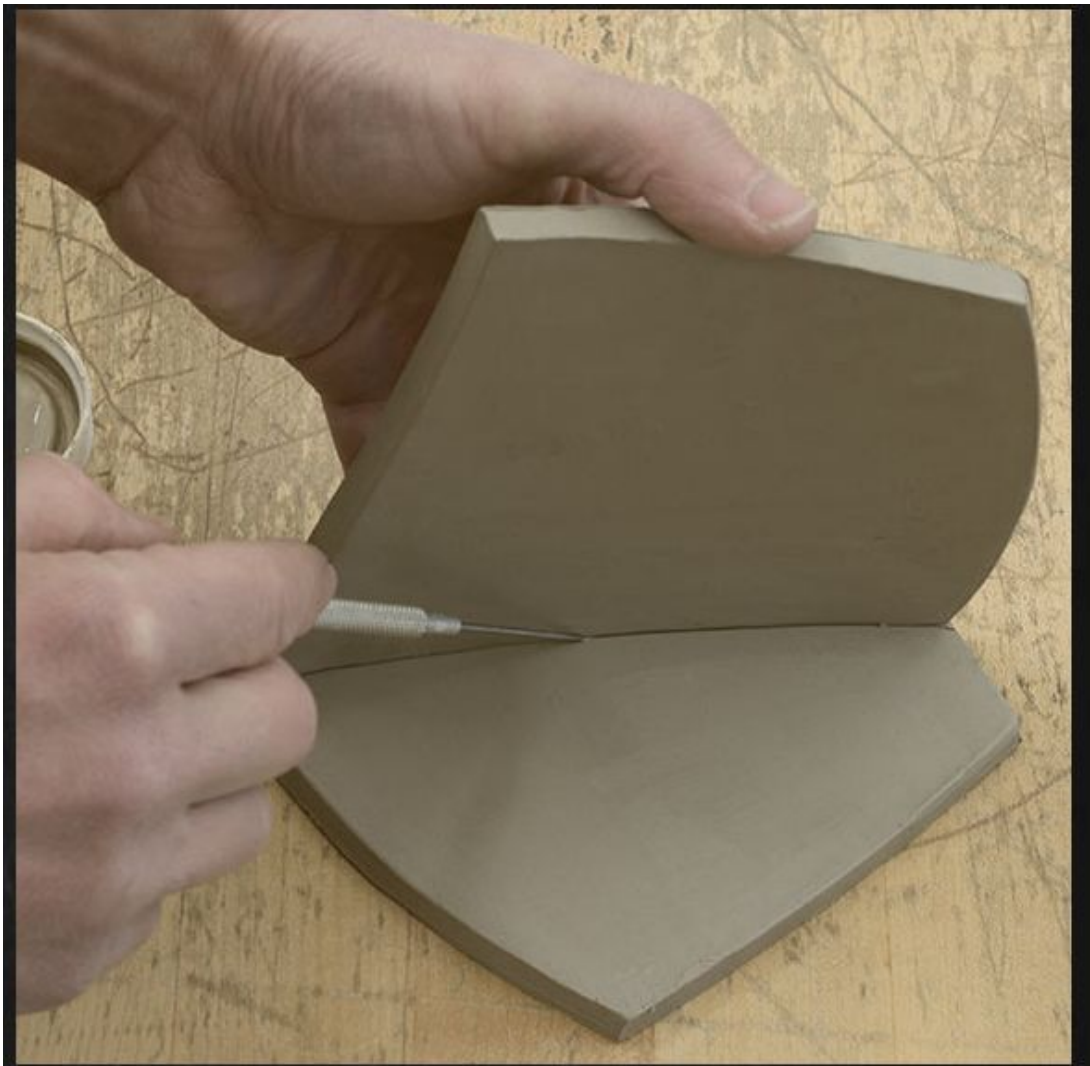
#1



#2

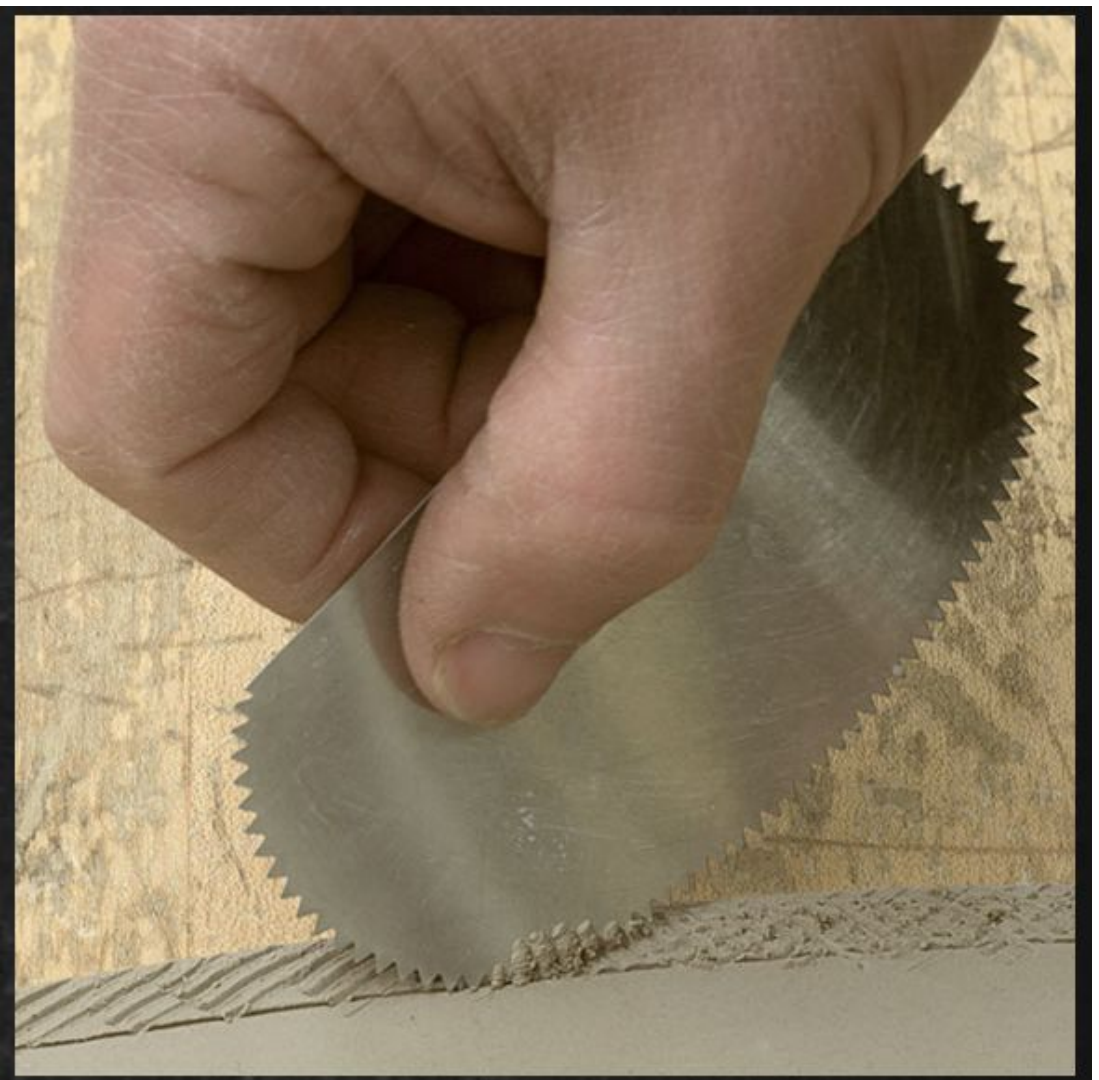
Measure

Mark where one slab will join on another with a needle tool.



Score

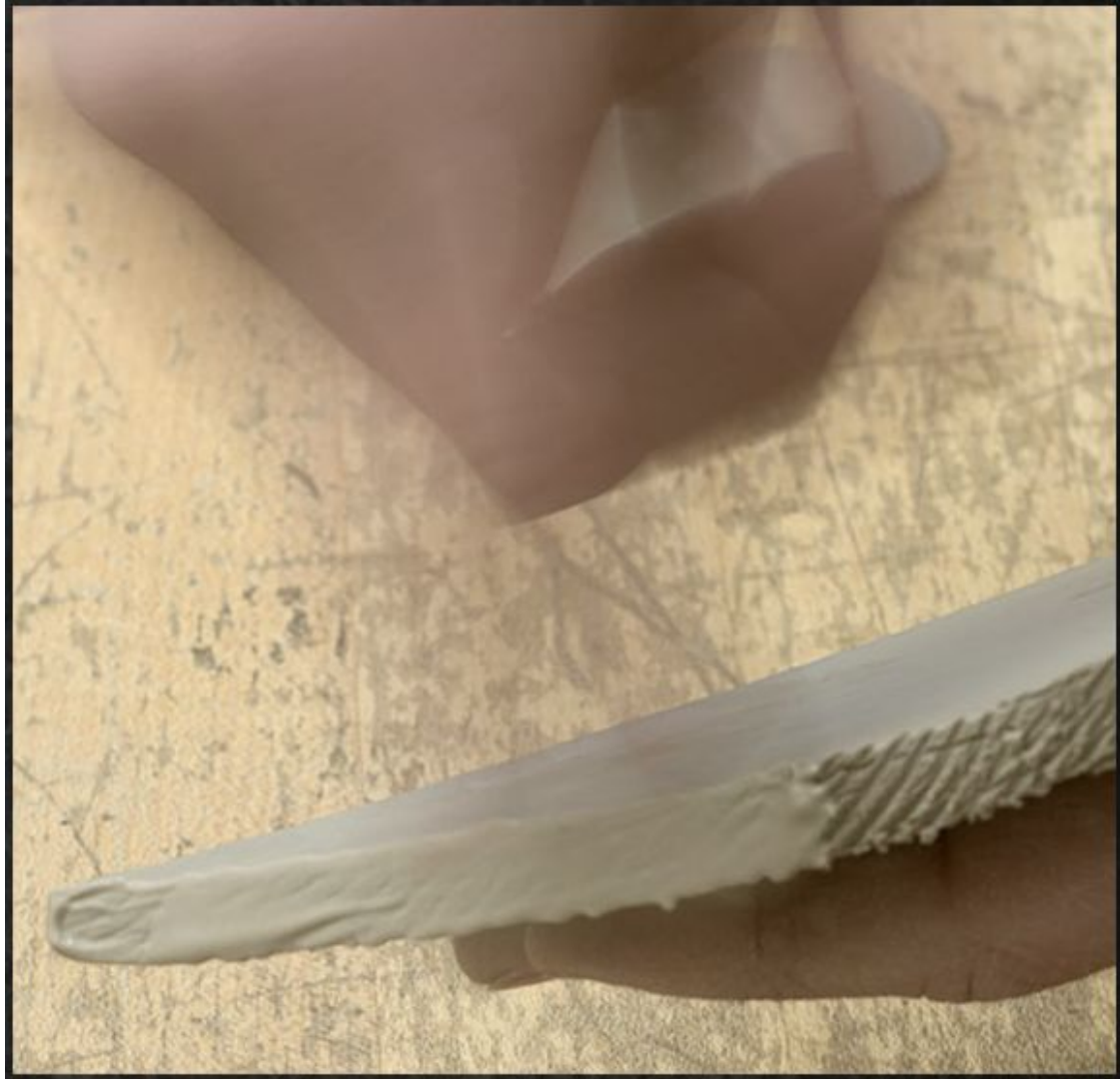
To rough up or scratch the surface with a needle tool where both pieces that will touch.



Slip

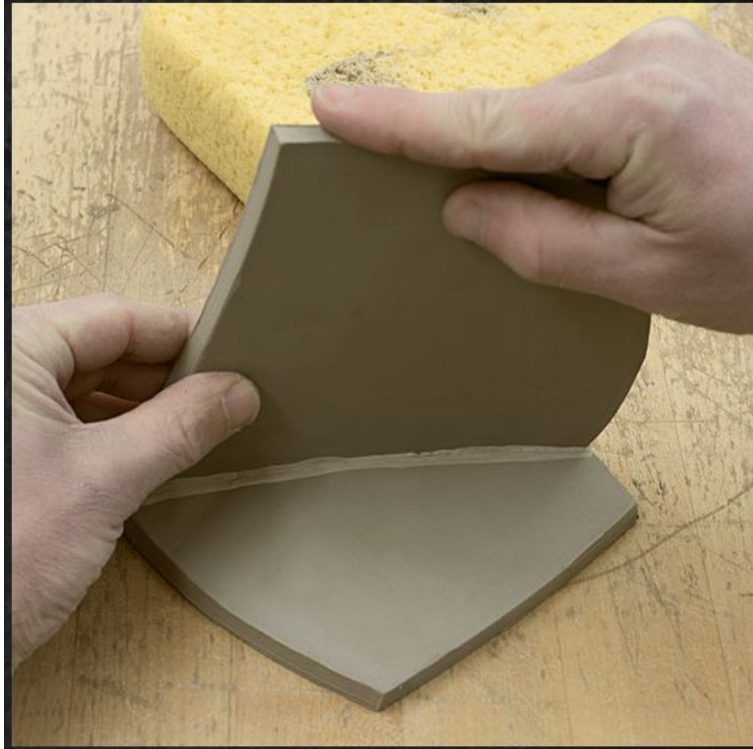
Liquid clay body applied to both scored areas to join two pieces of clay together.

It acts like a “glue”.



Joining

Press slabs together.



Apply small coil and smooth for added strength.



Darting:
removing clay in order
to redefine a form.



Wedging

kneading clay with the hands to force out air pockets and create a uniform texture to the clay.



Reconstitute

Reconstitute -
to rehydrate
the clay



Reconstitute

To add
moisture
back into
the clay.



Conditions of Clay

- **Raw
(Plastic)**

moist, unfired clay

easiest to
manipulate

- Leather Hard
- Bone Dry



Conditions of Clay

- Raw (Plastic)
- **Leather Hard** clay is partially dried, firm, easy to carve, & holds its own weight.
- Bone Dry



Conditions of Clay

- Raw (Plastic)
- Leather Hard
- **Bone Dry**
no moisture left in clay, not fired and most fragile



Stages of Clay

- **Greenware**
unfired, bone-dry
ceramic objects. This is
the most fragile stage.

- Bisqueware
- Glazeware



Stages of Clay

- Greenware
- **Bisqueware**
where clay has been fired
once without glaze
- Glazeware



Stages of Clay

- Greenware
- Bisqueware

● Glazeware

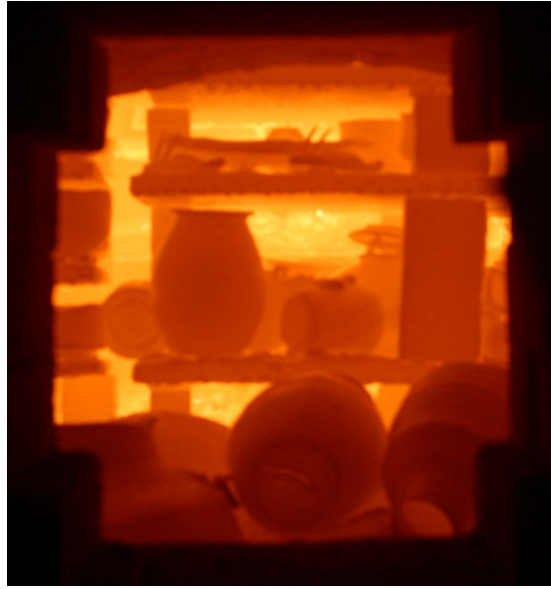
bisqueware has been fired
with layers of glaze on it.



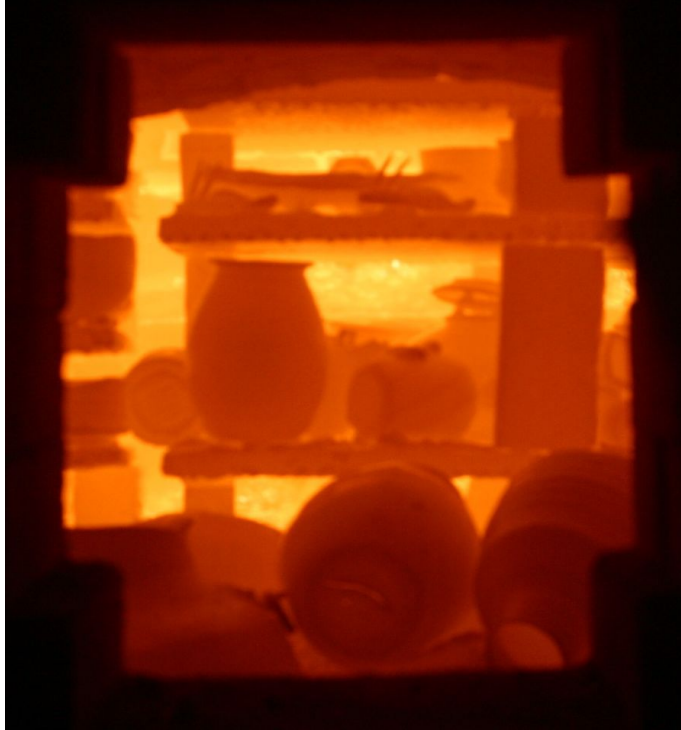
What is a Kiln?

Refractory oven
that heats clay
to rock-like
consistency.





If we are firing
to cone 06,
how **hot** will
our kiln get?



If we are firing to cone 06,
how **hot** will our kiln get?

1830 degrees fahrenheit