UNIT 1

GLAZE

Requirements:

(Refer to requirements Unit 1 - 4 on page 2)

Basic Information:

Glazes:
(1) Are usually applied to bisque.
(2) May be applied to greenware in certain cases. **Follow manufacturer’s suggestions.**
(3) Require specific application using the correct brush.
(4) Require different temperature firing. **Always read manufacturer’s labels for application and firing directions.**

Types of most common Glazes:
(1) Gloss (may be opaque, semi-opaque, transparent or semi transparent).
(2) Art (may be gloss, satin or matte that breaks into two or more colors).
(3) Crystal (may be gloss, satin or matte that has rock like crystals that melt in the firing).
(4) Crackle (may be gloss, satin or matte). Antiqued with an ink thin, dark, stain to enhance crazes.
(5) Satin (moves very little in firing).
(6) Matte (does not move in firing).
(7) Woodgrain (has a soft crystal that must be brushed out to give wood grain effect).
(8) Textural (creates various textures from very fine to very coarse).
(9) Special effect (is a “stay put” glaze that can be used under, over or between colored glazes).

*Have your project leader, parent and/or ceramic studio owner help you choose your greenware and glazes. They will be able to assist you in your choices and guide you.*

Consult the Exhibit Requirements on the web at [www.colorado4h.org](http://www.colorado4h.org) for each unit.

PROJECT 1

Basic Information:

(1) Project 1 for the first year ceramist is designed to be a learning introduction.
(2) **Project 1 for a member repeating Unit 1 is designed to be a progressive learning experience.**
(3) This piece will be considered as one of your required pieces. **Learning projects are usually not entered in competition.**
(4) In this project you will purchase your basic brushes, tools, greenware and paint. **Repeating members will need to learn the use of new brushes, tools and techniques.**
(5) You will be learning many new ceramic terms from your leader and/or the glossary.

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You are ready to begin!

Steps:

(A) Purchase a 4 or 6 inch tile.
(B) Prepare work area with suitable covering (i.e. newspaper, butcher paper, old towel, etc.).
(C) **Follow the safety rules.** (Refer to page 3)
(D) Clean tile using proper tools. (Refer to page 4)
(E) Initial and date tile on the bottom for identification. This is a requirement.
(F) Senior and/or repeating members may leave the tile in greenware form and go to the next step.
(G) With a pencil, divide the tile into 4 sections. Using a sgraffito tool incise the pencil lines. Be creative!!
(H) Bisque fire your tile according to the glaze label firing instructions.
(I) Keep accurate notes as you proceed.

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(J) Prepare your work area with suitable covering.
(K) **Remember the safety rules.** (Page 3)
(L) Using a damp sponge clean kiln dust from your tile.
(M) Senior/repeating members will choose two or more different glazes, (e.g. gloss, satin, matte, or crystal). Using your harmony color wheel, choose the colors you would like for your tile. Your leader will guide you.
(N) Apply recommended number of coats of glaze, as stated on the glaze label, on your tile. Be sure each coat is dry before applying the next coat. Be sure to glaze the bottom of your tile. The bottom of your piece should look as nice as the top. Your leader will guide in the application of glazes.
(O) Have your piece fired to label recommended cone size.
(P) Have stilt marks removed. After having the stilt marks removed, slide piece over a newspaper. If stilt marks scratch or tear the paper, you will need to remove the sharp edges again. You may want to use felt feet over the removed stilt marks. **Do not use full coverage of felt over the enter bottom.** The judge must have access to the bottom of pieces for close inspection.
(Q) Judge your project using information on page 7 as a guide.
(R) Complete the Ceramics e-Record supplement sheets.

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PROJECT 2

Basic Information:

(1) Project 2 for the first year member will serve as a functional piece. You may use it as your water cup throughout your ceramic projects.
(2) Members repeating this unit may want to do a brush holder or another greenware piece of his/her choice. Be creative!!!
(3) This is a required learning piece.

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Suggestions:

For senior and repeating members:

(1) Try design work by using glazes over a Matte or Satin glaze. This is called a Majolica technique.
(2) Seek more techniques from ceramic publications and/or your local ceramic studio.

Steps:

(A) Prepare work area.
(B) Remember the safety rules. (Refer to Page 3)
(C) Carefully clean seam lines from your greenware with proper tools. The circumference of the cup lip must be the same width. This is accomplished as you smooth the rim.
(D) Have your piece fired according to the label instructions.
(E) Keep accurate notes as you proceed.

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(F) Prepare work area.
(G) After cleaning your bisque with a damp sponge, roll one “rolling coat” of glaze inside your piece. Your leader will help you mix your glaze for a rolling coat. Be sure to leave your piece upside down until dry, resting the rim of the piece on a clean cleaning tool or pencil. This will avoid over glazing the inside. Continue by glazing the outside and bottom. Do not over - lap your outside glaze onto your inside glaze. It will cause the glazes to bleed into each other. Be sure each coat is dry before beginning your next coat. You may use the same color/s as you used on the tile.
(H) Fire according of the label instructions.
(I) Remove the stilt marks on your piece.
(J) Enter information on your Ceramics e-Record project and expense supplement sheets.

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Project 3

Basic Information:

1. **GREAT!!** You have completed projects 1 and 2.
2. Skills learned:
   - Proper cleaning of greenware.
   - Application of glaze of your choice.
   - Rolling glaze inside a piece.
   - Butting (or meeting) two glazes.
3. You are now ready to complete project 3 which may be your exhibit piece.
4. If time permits you can complete several projects. You may want to do an evaluation on each of your pieces that are exhibit consideration. This would let you determine which would be your best piece for exhibit.

Suggestions:

1. You may use the same skills learned on your third project or refer to Ceramic Knowledge and Goals checklist to learn and complete a new skill.
2. Before choosing your project 3 piece, and if you have the opportunity, go to several ceramic studios to see what is available.
3. Look through ceramic publications for technique ideas. Check references on page 70.
4. Be sure to stay within your unit medium, (Glaze).
5. You may want to change your piece by carving a design into the dry greenware or by cutting a design into wet greenware. You may change the design of your piece as you like. This is considered a greenware adaptation, but is still within your unit if you use glaze as your medium. Be sure the greenware is casted a little heavier than normal. Extra care will be needed because there is a degree of risk in breakage. **This is not recommended for ages 9 thru 13 years, but would be an excellent technique for senior members.**

Steps:

(A) Follow cleaning steps as outlined on page 4.
(B) Decide on the technique you wish to achieve. Your leader will guide you. If you do not have a ceramic project leader, contact your Extension Agent so he/she may be able to connect you with a local project leader or a knowledgeable person. If neither is available, see if the Ceramic Leaders manual is available for more advanced information.
(C) Keep accurate notes as you proceed.
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CERAMIC KNOWLEDGE
CHECK LIST:

Identify the following tools/brushes:
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GLAZE

What I learned about the care of my ceramic brushes: ______________________________________

Congratulations!! By completing 3 or more projects, exhibiting Ceramics e-Records and one project you have completed this year’s Unit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ceramic Knowledge and Goals checklist:</th>
<th>New skills I have learned.</th>
<th>Skills I want to learn or improve.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Removing seam lines and imperfections, from the greenware, with the proper tools.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Altering the greenware pattern for a special effect.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application of an Opaque gloss glaze with an Ox hair or Nylon glaze brush.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application of a Semi-Opaque gloss glaze with a Nylon glaze brush.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application of a Transparent and/or Semi-Transparent glaze with a Nylon glaze brush.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application of an Art gloss glaze with an Ox hair or Nylon glaze brush.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application of an Art Satin and/or Matte glaze with a Nylon glaze brush.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application of a Crystalline Gloss, Satin and/or Matte glaze/s with a Fan brush.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application of a Crystal Gloss, Satin and/or Matte glaze/s with a Fan brush.</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Application of Crackles Gloss, Satin and/or Matte glaze/s with a nylon brush.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application of Woodgrain Satin and/or Matte glaze/s with an Ox hair or Fan brush.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application of a Textural glaze using a brush, paint knife, sponge or other instruments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application of a Special Effect glaze using a brush, paint knife, sponge or other instruments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Antiquing with glazes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application of a combination of different color glazes, one over another, for a mingled or multi-colored effect.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application of a combination of different color glazes, a deliberate placement of colors, controlling the colors.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application of glaze contained within a design area (i.e. a figurine with different colored areas).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sgraffito through glaze/s using two or more glaze colors.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inlay of glazes into certain areas of pattern (i.e. a Mosaic).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Majolica: A glaze decoration over a Matte or Satin glaze.</td>
<td>Limited</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
amount of underglaze for outlining only will be accepted.

Put the date when you learned the skills. Place a check mark in the column of skills you would like to learn. Discuss skills you would like to learn with your leader. She/he will be able to give you hints as how to achieve your goal.

Check the glossary for more information on each of the skills.