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**Bat:** a flat, wooden plate-like disc placed on the wheel head and used as a surface on which to throw larger works. It can be removed with the wet thrown form in place and therefore helps reduce damage to the soft clay.

**Bisque:**

The first firing a pot undergoes to prepare it for glazing. This is a lower temperature than the final glaze firing. After the bisque the clay can no longer be slaked down into a workable material.

**Bisque-ware:** Work that has been fired once and is now ready to be glazed. Can no longer be turned back into re-workable clay.

**Coiling:** Using a "rope-like" pieces of clay to build vessels.

**Collaring:** Pressing in an inward, upward motion with both hands while throwing to close in a cylinder to make it a smaller diameter.

**Cone:** Heat measuring tool used to read the temperature of a kiln.

**Coiling:** A method of hand building using long rolled out or extruded lengths of clay. Each coil of clay is integrated with the previous one to build the work up. The coils may be completely obliterated in the construction process or retained for their decorative qualities.

**Electric kiln:** This is what your work is fired in. It is an oxidation atmosphere.

**Glazeware:** Clay work that has been fired to the highest temperature and has been glazed. It is now finished.

**Greenware:** Clay work that has not been fired yet.

**Kiln wash:** A refractory mixture painted on kiln shelves to prevent glaze from adhering.

**Leather Hard:** A stage in the drying process of clay when the clay is pliable but strong enough to handle. It is ideal for trimming and the addition of appendages such as handles and spouts.

**Loop Tool:** A hand tool used for trimming or carving clay

**Oxidation:** A firing where there is either no combustion occurring (electric kiln) or where there is sufficient oxygen in the kiln to allow the fuel to burn cleanly. The atmosphere of the kiln (oxidation or reduction) dramatically affects the resulting clay and glaze colors.

**Raku:** The term describes a low fire form of pottery where the pots are removed from the kiln as soon as the glaze has melted and then left to cool, doused with water, or the red hot pot is placed in a lidded bin filled with straw or sawdust.

**Rib:** a plastic, metal, or wooden tool (falt, bean shaped) used to shape clay.

**Reclaim:** Clay chunks that will be soaked in water, put on a plaster bat to dry a little bit, and then wedged to make more things!

**Sgraffito:** A decorative technique, where by the surface of the clay is scratched, often to expose another layer of colored clay.

**Shrinkage:** The decrease in the size of a clay object due to drying and firing.

**Throwing:** To make hollow vessel forms by hand on a turning/ moving wheel.

**Trimming:** Done at the leather hard stage, the pot is inverted onto a potter's wheel and a metal cutting tool is applied to the bottom of the pot until the desired finish is achieved.

**Underglaze:** Ceramic colors combined with clay applied under or over a glaze.

**Vitrification:** The degree of melt in a clay body as the silica forms a glass with fluxes present.

**Wedging:** To knead or mix clay by hand to remove air bubbles, thus making it more workable and of an even consistency.

**Wire Tool:** a wire held between two wooden dowel handles used to cut thrown forms of the wheel head.