



POTTERY

Merit Badge Requirements

- 1) Explain to your counselor the precautions that must be followed for the safe use and operation of a potter's tools, equipment, and other materials.
- 2) Explain the properties and ingredients of a good clay body for the following:
 - A) Making sculpture
 - B) Throwing on the wheel
- 3) Make two drawings of pottery forms, each on an 8 ½ by 11 inch sheet of paper. One must be a historical pottery type. The other must be of your own design.
- 4) Explain the meaning of the following pottery terms: bat, wedging, throwing, leather hard, bone dry, greenware, bisque, terra-cotta, grog, slip, score, earthenware, stoneware, porcelain, pyrometric cone, and glaze.
- 5) Do the following. Each piece is to be painted, glazed, or otherwise decorated by you:
 - A) Make a slab pot, a coil pot, and a pinch pot.
 - B) Make a human or animal figurine or decorative sculpture.
 - C) Throw a functional form on a potter's wheel.
 - D) Help to fire a kiln.
- 6) Tell how three different kinds of potter's wheels work.
- 7) Visit the kiln yard at a local college or other crafts school. Learn how the different kinds of kilns work, including the low-fire electric, high-fire gas or propane, wood or salt/soda, and raku.
- 8) Explain the scope of the ceramic industry in the United States. Tell some of the things made, other than craft pottery.

Requirement 1

Explain to your counselor the precautions that must be followed for the safe use and operation of a potter's tools, equipment, and other materials: _____

Requirement 2

Explain the properties and ingredients of a good clay body for making a sculpture: _____

Explain the properties and ingredients of a good clay body for throwing on the wheel: _____

Requirement 3

__ On a separate piece of paper that is 8 ½ by 11 inches make a drawing of a pottery form. Make this one a historical pottery type. Attach your drawing to this worksheet.

__ On a separate piece of paper that is 8 ½ by 11 inches make another drawing of a pottery form. Make this one a design of your own. Attach your drawing to this worksheet.

Requirement 4

Explain the meaning of the following pottery terms:

Bat: _____

Wedging: _____

Throwing: _____

Leather Hard: _____

Bone Dry: _____

Scout Name: _____ Unit #: _____ Date: _____

Greenware: _____

Bisque: _____

Terra Cotta: _____

Grog: _____

Slip: _____

Score: _____

Earthenware: _____

Stoneware: _____

Porcelain: _____

Pyrometric Cone: _____

Glaze: _____

Requirement 5

You have been asked to do three projects. Each piece is to be painted, glazed, or otherwise decorated by you.

Make a slab pot, a coil pot, and a pinch pot.

___ Show your project to your counselor.

Make a human or animal figurine or decorative sculpture.

___ Show your project to your counselor.

Throw a functional form on a potter's wheel.

___ Show your project to your counselor.

___ Help to fire a kiln

Requirement 6

Tell how three different kinds of potter's wheels work:

Type 1: _____

Explain how the potter's wheel works: _____

Type 2: _____

Explain how the potter's wheel works: _____

Type 3: _____

Explain how the potter's wheel works: _____

Requirement 7

Visit the kiln yard at a local college or other crafts school. Learn how the different kinds of kilns work.

How does a low-fire electric kiln work? _____

How does a high-fire gas or propane kiln work? _____

How does a wood or salt/soda kiln work? _____

How does a raku kiln work? _____
