

Ceramics knowledge organiser

Vocabulary

Vessel- container like a bowl

Construct- build or make

Design- plan or drawing

Sculpture- 3 dimensional art

Mould- make form out of material

Leather hard- partially dried clay

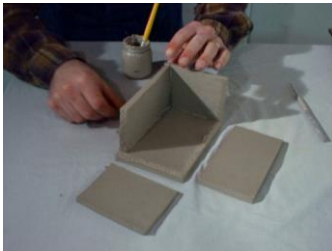
Decorative- make art attractive and beautiful

Bond- connect two surfaces

Slab Building

Clay is rolled into sheets - ideally around 1.5cm thick. An even thickness can be achieved by placing **wooden guides** at each side of the clay as it is flattened.

Once the **slabs** have reached a **leather-hard** consistency, they can then easily be cut and used to build a three-dimensional shape.



Slip

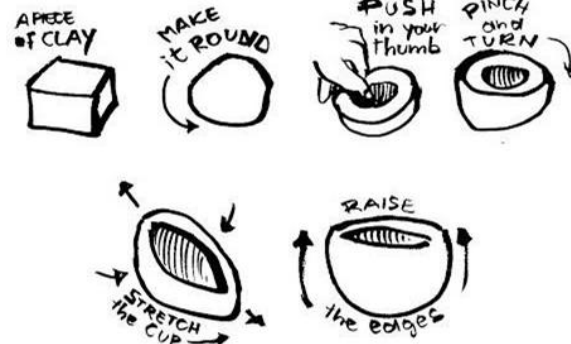
A mixture of clay and water used to bond pieces of clay together, to decorate and protect pottery or it can be poured into a mould and used to cast objects.



Relief is a sculptural method in which the sculpted pieces are bonded, using slip, to a solid background of the same material.

Pinch Pot

Pinch pots are a useful way to start a project. You can join two together to make a hollow **structure**, which could form the base of an interesting **sculpture**.



Tools and Equipment

Here are the tools and equipment used when working with clay



Kiln

A large oven that bakes dried out clay making it hard wearing

Pottery Knife

Cutting slabs, tiles, coils and decorative pieces



Modelling Tools

For smoothing, sculpting, drawing and mark-making



Wires and wire-ended tools

Decorative carving, shaping and shaving off layers while pots or vessels are thrown



Wooden Boards

For building work on

Guides for slab rolling

Ensuring even slab thickness



Rolling Pin

Rolling out clay

Banding wheels

Viewing and modifying portrait and sculpture work at all angles

