

KILN BASICS: VOCABULARY



ELEMENTS:



An element converts electricity into heat. A current passing through the element wire encounters resistance resulting in heat produced by the wire.

PYROMETER:



An instrument used for measuring or reading high temperatures.

KILN CEMENT:



A refractory material with structural properties used to repair chips in the floor brick of your kiln.

REFRACTORY:



A substance present in the insulating brick of kilns and kiln shelves and shelf supports that is resistant to heat and melting.

KILN SHELF WASH:



A refractory material used to protect the surface of kiln shelves from glaze run damage. It is designed to chip away glaze drips easily and should be reapplied in thin coats regularly.

RELAY:



An electronically controlled switch that turns the relays on and off.

KILN SITTER:



A manual kiln that uses a mini cone or bar cone to trigger the "off" function of the kiln at the completion of firing. It has manual temperature switches and an analog pyrometer.

SELECT FIRE:



A digital controller programmed to fire a kiln.

KILN VENT:



A motor fan and duct system that captures and vents fumes, odors and heat from the kiln.

THERMOCOUPLE:



A thermocouple is a thermoelectric device used for measuring temperature that consists of two wires of different metals connected at two points. Similar to a thermometer.