

in the buff

July 2014

Snippets of news & special offers from Clayman

We are pleased to announce we have been asked to represent Rohde Kilns, manufacturers of Top- Loading Kilns of quality and reputations. There are three ranges of top-loaders available. The Ecotop Series, the TE MCC+ Series and the TE S Series. Literature is available on request.

One example of note is the Ecotop 43L - a 43 litre (1.48 cubic feet) kiln operating from a 13amp socket with a maximum operating temperature of 1320°C. The Ecotop kilns are energy efficient due to a three layer insulation concept and also have a "novel" reversible base that allows easy adjustment of the working height. All Rohde Kilns come with a three year guarantee (elements excluded).

ROHDE

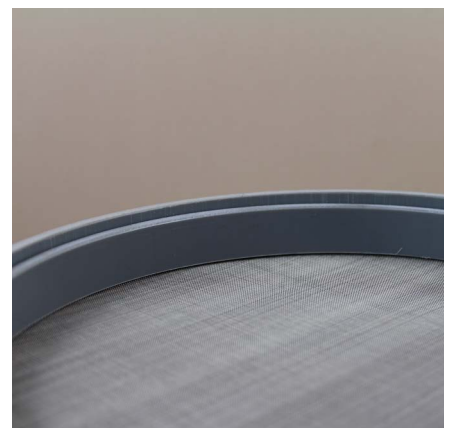
This is the best selling
Rohde Ecotop 43L.



Strong plastic framed stainless steel sieves

Sieves are one of the potter's essential aids. Traditionally potters have used the beechwood framed sieves, which latterly have used stainless steel mesh. Unfortunately the UK manufacturer of these sieves has ceased manufacture of them. We have taken this opportunity to research what is available and are pleased to announce our expanded range of plastic framed sieves. These sieves are made from a thick gauge plastic tube. Fitted with a strong stainless steel mesh, the design has no crevices that can retain material being sieved and are easily cleaned. We stock meshes of 60's, 80's and 120's in diameters of 160mm (120mm depth), 215mm (100mm depth) and 265mm (100mm depth).

We also stock a range of plastic cup test sieves in 60's, 80's and 120's meshes. Ideal for sieving small glaze batches, test amounts and colours.





600.12.C10



600.17.263



600.12.1004



600.07.409



600.11.C02



600.11.C42

Fantastic new Bisque!
from £1.64 + VAT each



**Selected
Cafe Colours**

60ml - £1.28 + VAT
500ml - £6.85 + VAT

60% OFF



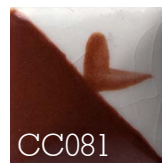
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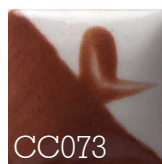
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CC037



CC073



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CC193

HANDY HINT!

GLAZES THAT "PAN"

Glazes can be made from a vast range of raw materials. Those which contain a reasonable proportion of clay (i.e. china clay, ball clay etc) will drop out of suspension on storage or standing but the glaze slurry is soft and easily dispersed into the standing water. Some materials such as frits can cause the glaze slurry to form a hard "pan". This is a hard lump that forms at the bottom of your glaze bucket and is not easily dispersed. A hard implement, such as a metal scraper, will assist in breaking up the lump. A mechanical stirrer is used by many workshops to save time and energy.

Adding a glaze suspender to the glaze mix will not stop the materials dropping out of suspension on standing, but does prevent that slurry forming such a hard pan. The question is how much should be added? The answer is not simple as all glazes, depending on their make up, are different. Glazes made from lead frits may need approximately 10ml per 5 litres whereas glazes made with Alkaline Frit (normally raku glazes) suffer the problem more severely and will need much more. One can put too much suspender into a mix, therefore resolving the problem is very much a "suck it and see" method.

Firstly all glaze sediments, irrespective of the glaze, must be dispersed with the water. Once this has been achieved, add glaze suspender sparingly. We suggest 10ml to 4-5 litres of glaze slop. If a hard sediment is formed again on standing add 5ml more suspender after dispersing all sediment again. Follow this procedure until the sediment that occurs on standing is soft and easily dispersed. Once you have achieved the correct balance of suspender to liquid glaze record the quantities for future reference.



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Off Lower Bognor Road, Lagness, Chichester, West Sussex. PO20 1LR
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