

Adding a Slab Spout:

by Deborah Schwartzkopf
PDF download at ratcitystudios.com



STEPS:

Hold your paper template up to the vessel you are adding a spout to. Access the size you will be needing. Mark and then trim your template to fit the body of the pitcher.

Make a well compressed, approximately 3/8" thick clay slab. Place your template near the edge of the slab. Trace your finger along the edge of card-stock paper template to transfer the line to the slab. Cut out the pieces once all your templates have been transferred to the slab.



Hold the slab spout up to the pitcher. Make sure it is well centered on the bi-lateral axis of the pitcher. Look at the profile of the spout and how it joins the pitcher body. Do you want to see a seam? Do you want one fluid line from tip to foot? What angle do you want the spout to lean out at?

After you have adjusted the placement, softly inscribe a line along the bottom of the clay spout piece. Then cut away this portion of the body of the pitcher. Slip and score both the spout piece and the body of the pitcher. Firmly press these scored edges together, blending them into each other.



After the attached slab spout has reached a soft leather-hard dryness, add tapered bits of clay across the seam, extending upward into the spout. Slip & score and then blend in these clay additions. These pieces act as a coil across a weak area and visually tie the cut edge of the spout to the soft thrown rim of the pitcher body.

Below are three "Starter Spout Templates". Try them out adjust them to your own pitcher, and then transfer your adjustments to heavier weight paper and save them for reuse.

Starter Spout Templates

