



Approaching Glazes & Testing:

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"I found I could say things with color and shapes that I could not say any other way- things I had no words for."

-Georgia O' Keeffe

Colorant %'s for Glaze Resource Wall:

Base Glaze Only

Base + 2% Yellow Iron Oxide

Base + 0.5% Chrome

Base + 1% Copper Carbonate

Base + 3% Copper Carbonate

Base + 0.25% Cobalt Carbonate

Base + 3% Chartreuse Stain

Base + 7% Red Stain

Base + 2% Nickel Oxide

Base + 6% Zircopax

Testing Procedure for the Resource Wall:

1.) *Make Test Tiles and Bisque Them*- It is your option to brush onto the bisqued tiles stripes of underglaze or oxide washes before dipping them in glaze. We added at least two Velevet AMAZO Underglazes. One lighter in hue, one darker.

2.) *Calculate, Weigh, and Dry Mix the Base Glaze*- Decide on the number of colorants being tested. Mix the base glaze in bulk matching the amount needed for all of the small tests. It is important to be exacting with your measurements. We will mix 1000gms of the recipe.. Each was thoroughly dry mixed, & divided into ten, 100 gm batches.

3.) *Label Test Tiles and Containers*- clearly label each container with your system of tracking. We used a # for the base and a letter for the colorant. Base 1, would be 1A, 1B, 1C. Use underglaze pencil, liquid underglaze or oxide wash to label test tiles. Add 100 gms dry mixed base glaze to each container with premeasured water.

Measure colorants on a small piece of paper (zeroed out on the scale). This prevents repetitive cleaning as some of the colorants stick to the scale surface. Double check that your label is correctly notating what you are about to add to the base glaze. Then dump the colorant/ opacifier into the base glaze with water. Move onto the next one.

4.) *Mix Glaze and Dip Test Tile*- Thoroughly mix the base glazes washing off your tools inbetween different recipes or materials. Use an Emusion blender to mix. If there are still clumps of dry material you may need to seive your test. I recommend dipping one time nearly to the bottom of the tile. Then dipping a second time half way down the tile. Then dipping the right corner a third time. This will give you an example of how the glaze changes with thickness. Be consistent with your dips. Take notes!

5.) *Prepare for Firing*- Wipe off any glaze from the bottom of the test tile. Notate you steps. Note your firing schedule. Make sure you have a guard cone in the kiln so you know your final temperature.

Glaze Info Sources:

Ceramic Spectrum
Robin Hopper

Ceramic Industry
<http://www.ceramicindustry.com>

Clay and Glazes for the Potter
Rhodes/ Hopper

Complete Guide to Higfire Glazes
Complete Guide to Midrange Glazes
John Britt- Also has many UTube offerings

Cone Six Glazes
Michael Bailey

Electric Kiln Ceramics
Richard Zakin & Frederick Bartolovic

Digital Fire Database
<http://digitalfire.com/>

Glazes for the Craft Potter
Harry Fraser, A & C Black

Ian Currie
<http://ian.currie.to/original/index.html>

Linda Arbuckle
Handout PDF's
<http://lindaarbuckle.com/handouts/>

Out of the Earth into the Fire
Mimi Obstler

The Potters Dictionary of
Materials and Techniques
Hamer, Frank

*"Taking notes
is imperative.
You will want to
repeat results
or avoid
them all together!"*

