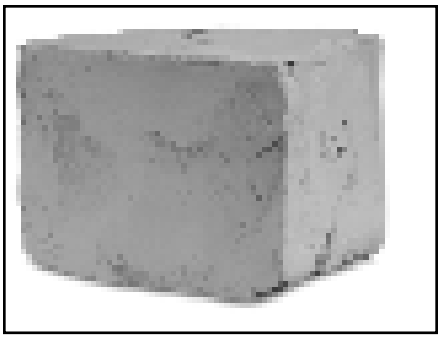
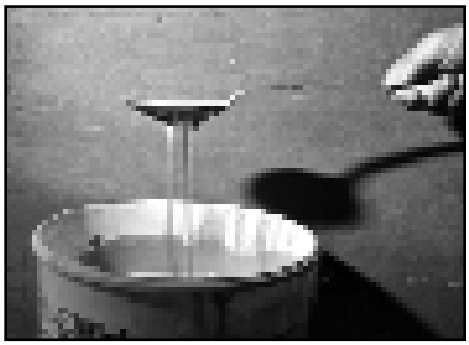
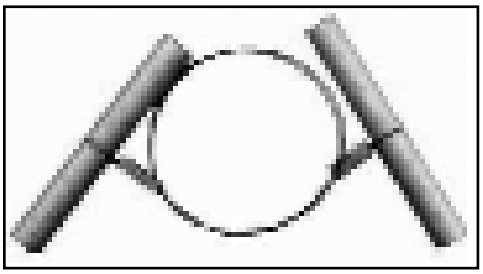
Ceramic Tools & Equipment



CLAY - Particles of decomposed rock combined with water to create a plastic, malleable body which is then fired in a ***kiln*** to fuse the particles back into a stone-like state. Usuall purchased in 25 lb. blocks.

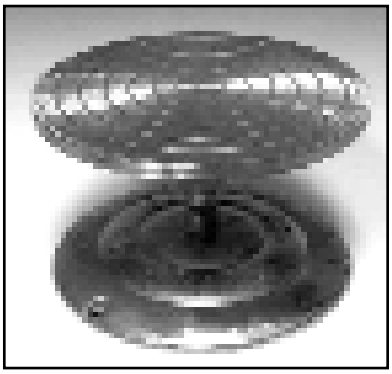
SLIP - A thick and creamy mixture of ***clay*** and water used to join ***clay*** parts together.

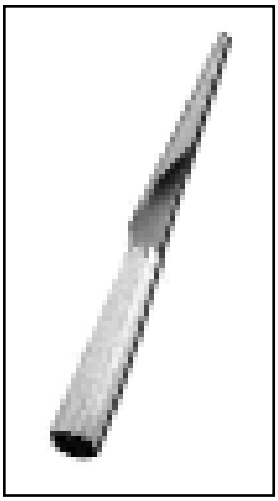




CUTTING WIRE - A metal or nylon wire with two handles used to cut ***clay.***

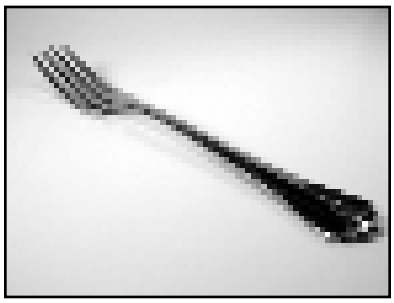
BANDING WHEEL - A turntable that can be revolved to turn a piece of pottery so to build it or decorate it.

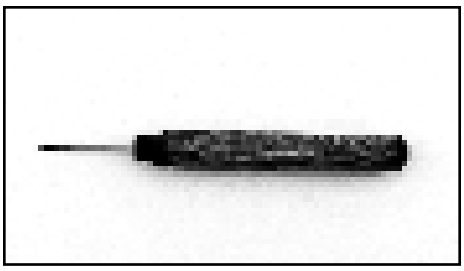




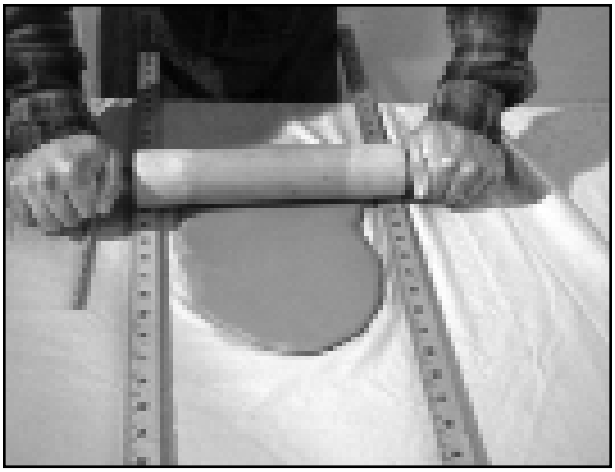
FETTLING KNIFE - A long, tapered knife used for trimming ***clay.***

FORK - A ordinary dinner fork used in ceramics to "score" or "rough up" two pieces of ***clay*** that is going to be joined together with ***slip.***



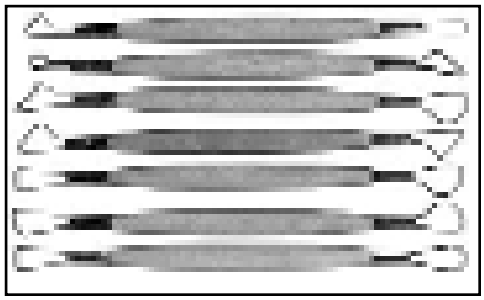


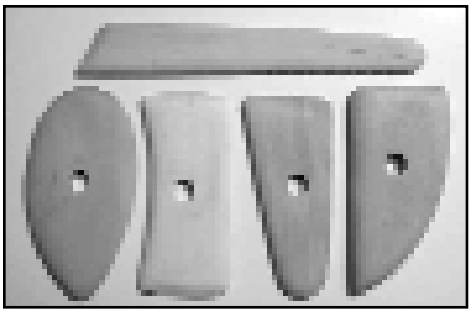
POTTER'S NEEDLE TOOL - A pointed, stiff, wire attached to a handle used in ceramics to trim our pierce ***clay.***



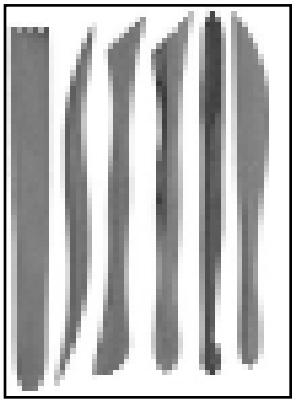
ROLLING PIN & WOODEN SLATS - The rolling pin is used to roll out slabs of ***clay,*** the wooden slats are used when you must roll out a consistent thickness of ***clay.***

LOOP TOOLS - Tools used to trim or sculpt ***clay.***



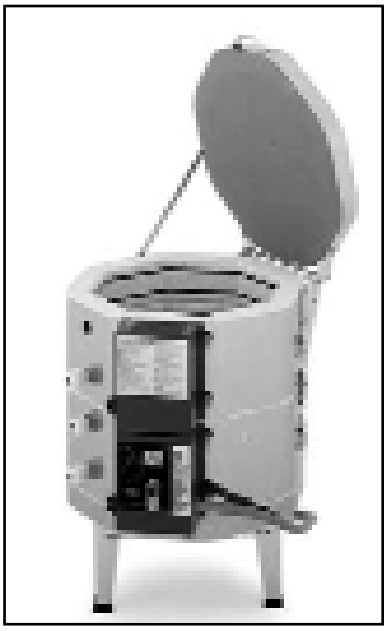


RIB TOOLS - Tools used to smooth ***clay.***

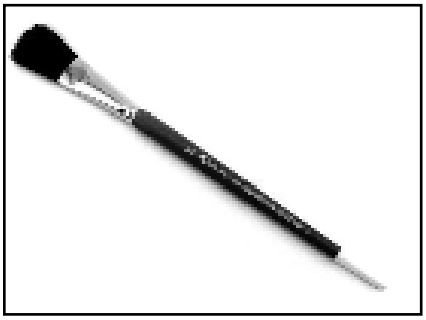


MODELING TOOLS - Various tools used to trim, decorate, or apply texture to the surface of ***clay.***

GLAZE - A mixture of powdered ***clay***, glass, fluxes and colorants in suspension with water. It is applied to bisqueware and then re-fired to a higher temperature. Glaze is used to decorate, protect and make the ware food-safe.



KILN - A furnace made of refractory (non-melting) materials constructed to fire ***clay***. They are usually fueled by electricity, gas or wood.



GLAZE BRUSH - A brush used to apply ***glaze.*** Generally, three coats of glaze must be applied to bisque ***clay.***