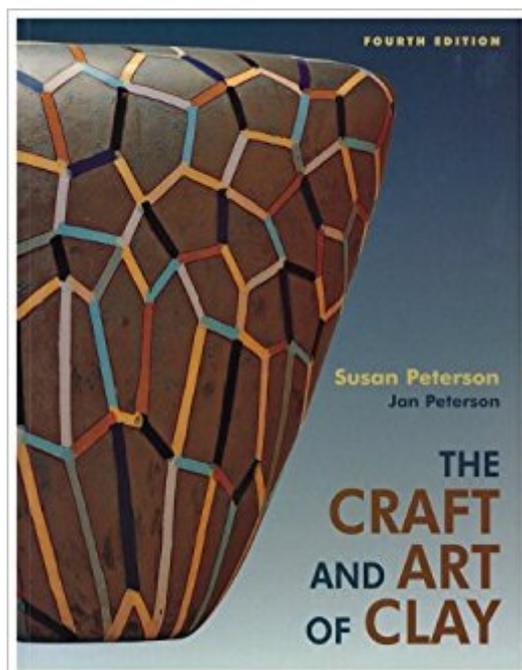


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# The Craft And Art Of Clay (4th Edition)



## Synopsis

Written by a well-known ceramist, this best-selling, comprehensive introduction to ceramics adeptly combines the artist's perspective and spirit of creative inspiration with step-by-step, extensively illustrated instruction in the full range of ceramic procedures—i.e., hand, wheel, and plasterwork techniques. Ideal for self-study, it features exceptionally clear explanations; an abundance of black-and-white and full-color illustrations of process sequences, model examples, and ceramic projects; and a convenient-to-use layout—with one topic per page or per two-page spread. The volume examines the craft and art of clay, fabrication methods, design, decoration, and glazing, clays and glazes, firing the ware, marketing and computers, and ceramic history. For those at any level of expertise in ceramics.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The Craft and Art of Clay is the most comprehensive introduction to ceramics available. The book contains numerous step-by-step illustrations of all ceramic techniques to guide the beginner, as well as an inspirational portfolio of ceramic pieces from contemporary international potters. For the more experienced ceramist, there is a wealth of invaluable information on glaze formulas and other technical details, including temperature conversions, which make the book ideal as a reference.

**NEW FEATURES OF THE FOURTH EDITION INCLUDE:** Trailblazers—special profiles of key ceramists who have made significant contributions around the world. The seven artists featured are: Juan Quezada, Peter Voulkos, Luo Xiao-Ping, Toshiko Takaezu, Huey Beckham, Otto Heino, and Janet Mansfield. A new chapter on Marketing and Computers. The material on marketing in the last edition is expanded to provide more detail on how to sell your work successfully, including

preparing it for display, approaching galleries, and finding venues for showing your pieces. New computer material includes technical aspects, from using computers to calculate glaze formulas and computerized firing, to useful programs and websites, and the creation of "virtual ceramics." New material on using gold, alternative glazes, and paperclays. 150 new color illustrations. A revised and clarified Compendium of technical information. Invaluable features, such as safety icons to warn beginners of potential hazards, a concise history of ceramics and its traditions from prehistory to the present day, and an updated bibliography, glossary, list of museum collections, residencies and magazines, are retained in this new edition. Susan Peterson's engaging writing style, deep knowledge, and boundless enthusiasm encourage creativity and engender an appreciation of the oldest of arts.

Susan Peterson is Professor Emerita of Ceramics at Hunter College at the City University of New York, and is a practising ceramist whose work has been exhibited throughout the world. Her career spans more than fifty years and includes the founding of five ceramics departments at colleges throughout the United States. She has had her own studio since 1950 and exhibits and lectures in countries around the world, including China. She is also the author of *Working with Clay*, *Contemporary Ceramics*, and *Jun Kaneko*. A member of the International Ceramic Academy, Geneva, she is also a Fellow of the American Craft Council, a recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts grant, of the Lifetime Achievement Award from NCECA (the National Ceramic Education Council of America), and the prestigious Binns Medal from the American Ceramic Society and the New York State College of Ceramics. Jan Peterson is a high school and college ceramic teacher, ceramic artist, and jeweller.

This is a large book chock full of information, and provides an in-depth survey of ceramics. There are many photographs about techniques and many illustrations of beautiful artistic ceramics pieces. Also it contains lots of technical information, tables, etc. Since other reviews have covered the merits of this book quite well, I'll mention a few issues: First, there are lots of sample photos of different clay bodies under different firings and different glaze colors and combinations, etc., but they are all \*way too small\* to really see the characteristics of each sample. Also sometimes there is a series of photos, e.g. throwing a pot, building a kiln, and when they are all arranged on the page, each one is too small (and many are b&w, from previous editions?) Otherwise the book is very well illustrated with a wide variety of work. The glaze discussion does not cover the properties of glaze bases and coloring oxides much at all, which is something I would expect in a book of this comprehensiveness.

It does spent some time on commercial fritted stains and Mayco glazes, which other books don't, and can be useful to some, especially for low-temp work. But if you really want to get into glazes, this is not the book. For many advanced topics, she has just a mention that leaves me hungry for more. E.g. lusters she briefly mentions using and making, but Rhodes has a much more thorough discussion of making lusters. Paperclay is mentioned briefly but not enough to really tell me how to make it or use it. For many of the topics in the book, more detailed discussions are possible and likely available elsewhere. However she has assembled lots of brief mentions of different and experimental work that you might not encounter in other ceramics survey books, so it is useful for knowing what else I want to look into.[This review pertains to the 4th edition, 2003.]

very good for my pottery class

Had to order this for my ceramics class. It's what the teacher required. It's a nice layout. Easy to read and understand, other than that don't really care much for it.

I am taking a pottery class and this book is the required text for the class. I was very pleased with the price of the text. Thank you, I am enjoying every page.

Please take into consideration that this book was required reading for a college course. With that being said, it is a good book. Full of valuable and interesting information for a pottery course. Good sculpturing ideas are present. Great pictures.

It just didn't have the information I was looking for.

great

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