

## CHOOSING THE RIGHT COOKIE

- Cookies are meant to protect the kiln shelves from coming in contact with any glaze.
- Members need to attach cookies to their work if there is glaze anywhere within 3/8" to 1/2" from the base of their work.
- The best choice is a cookie that offers the most coverage of the base of your piece without extending beyond the outer edge. Choose the largest cookie or place three smaller cookies in a triangle formation.
- Cookies should be attached to your work using wax resist. This way you control where the cookies are placed and reduce the risk of them shifting while a piece is being loaded or moved around in the kiln.
- Your work needs to be stable. The wax melts around 200 degrees and work can move a bit during glaze firing so if your piece has the potential to tip over figure out a way to adequately support it. Think of these things while making your piece as you might need to engineer a custom support.
- On large flat pieces care should be taken not to have glaze on the outside edges of your piece. Large flat work is prone to warping or sagging during glaze firing. If glaze is on the edge then choose a larger clay piece or tiles from kiln alley to keep your piece as flat as possible.
- If you are supporting a piece with a hole in it and using a cone shaped support remember that the cone won't shrink but your piece will. If there isn't adequate clearance between the hole and the support your piece might become permanently attached to the cone.
- If glaze comes in contact with your cookie or support it might become permanently attached. If you have holes on the base of your piece make sure they are free of glaze or nowhere near your cookies. This applies to beads or small pieces hung from nichrome wire on bead trees.

### REMEMBER BARE BOTTOMS ARE BEST!

If you insist on using glaze on the bottom of your piece then the **only supports you can use have to have the nichrome wire tips on them.** These are called STILTS. If excessive glaze is on your piece and it damages one of the more expensive stilts you might be asked to cover the cost of a replacement. The wire tips will leave sharp points on the base of your work.

**If a piece is placed on the kiln firing shelf without proper clearance or support it may be rejected from firing until properly supported . Please ask a Monitor if you are uncertain.**