

HIGH TEMPERATURE (CONE 10) KILN WASH

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION

L&L High temperature (cone 10) kiln wash is available in one pound and five pound boxes. It is made from a mixture of Silica, kaolin, and Alumina Hydrate.

DIRECTIONS FOR USE

Kiln wash is applied to kiln shelves to protect them from glaze drips. On a washed shelf, drips can be easily removed without gouging or marring the kiln shelf.

Some people also apply the kiln wash to the kiln bottom. Because this has both its benefits and detractors, we recommend that it only be done based on the kiln user's individual preferences.

Mix the kiln wash with water to a thin cream consistency. Apply only one coat at a time. Use a wide paintbrush or utility brush (a 2" - 3" wide, soft bristle brush generally works best). Three individually fired-on coats of kiln wash are preferable.

APPLYING KILN WASH

- 1) Make sure the tops of the shelves are coated with kiln wash. This will protect these surfaces from melting glaze and ceramics. If desired, also apply to the kiln bottom.
- 2) Do not coat the bottom or sides of the shelves.
- 3) Do not apply kiln wash to the brick sides or element holders.
- 4) Apply the kiln wash to the thickness of a post card.
- 5) The only purpose of kiln wash is to prevent any glaze that drips from a piece from sticking to the floor or shelves. This saves both the piece and the floor or shelves. If dripping should occur, simply remove dripping and cover the spot with new kiln wash.
- 6) When you are applying kiln wash to your shelves for the first time, it helps to dampen the top of your shelves with a wet sponge or a water-filled spray bottle first. This makes the kiln wash go on easier and more evenly.
- 7) For the kiln wash to really protect the kiln shelves it is best to apply three separate coats. In addition it is best to fire each coating separately. (If you brush one coat on, let it dry and then brush on another, you could actually be brushing off the first in the process, so ideally each coat should be fired on). The shelf can be used while firing the kiln wash on, so theoretically you would put one coat on, load the shelves and do your test firing of the kiln. The second coat would be fired on in the first bisque and the third coat in the second bisque or first glaze (whichever comes next). Fire at least to cone 018 - hot enough to give the kiln wash

enough adherence to the shelf to prevent it from coming off in the second coating. Note that some people get away fine without three firings of the kiln wash. However, we include this recommendation as a "best practice".

8) If you notice that your kiln wash is flaking off, use a paint scraper (or something similar) to remove any loose bits, then reapply kiln wash. If glaze drips onto your shelf, use the paint scraper to pop the glaze drip off and clean up any loose areas around the area, then dab some more kiln wash in the bare area.

PROGRAM TO QUICKLY DRY KILN WASH

Here is a program that will dry the kiln wash in a hurry:

In the Vary-Fire section:

Press **Enter Prog**, Press '1'

Press **ENTER**, Press '1'

Press **ENTER**, Press '60'

Press **ENTER**, Press '200'

Press **ENTER**, Press '600' (for 6 hours, 400 for 4 hours, 800 for 8 hours etc of hold time at 200 degrees)

Press **ENTER**, Press 9999

Press **ENTER**, Press **START**

APPLYING KILN WASH TO A KILN SITTER

If you have a kiln sitter/timer, put kiln wash on the cone supports (not sensing rod) for accurate cone action. Clean off the old wash and reapply new wash each time you fire or when it begins to chip away.

IMPORTANT CAUTIONS

- 1) Kiln wash contains silica. Long term exposure to silica dust could cause lung damage.
- 2) Reference hotkilns.com/msds-kiln-wash for the material safety data sheet for kiln wash.
- 3) Exercise proper caution when mixing the dry powder and when removing it from your shelves.
- 4) Use a NIOSH approved particulate respirator for dust and use proper ventilation. You can buy these from safety supply houses. (NIOSH_approval #TC-21C-132 is an example).
- 5) Store kiln shelves in a dry location. Shelves can absorb moisture and this can cause them to explode when they are fired.
- 6) Do not fire cracked shelves. They can fail in the middle of a firing causing the whole load in your kiln to collapse.
- 7) We recommend attending the kiln during all firings, as no automatic safety device is foolproof.