

KAWARTHA POTTERS' GUILD TECHNICAL STANDARDS

Revised June 2010

Purpose:

-to help members improve/maintain the technical quality of their work using accredited standards.

-to inform customers of expectations and limitations of different types of pottery.

Mandate:

-to maintain technical standards on all pottery being presented to the public under the Guild's name.

ALL WORK:

-principal medium will be clay.

-any moulds used will be made by the potter

-clays, glazes and designs will be appropriate for the intended use of the piece

-walls and base will be proportionally correct for the pot's function.

-will have no cracks or chips

-seconds will not be sold

FUNCTIONAL POTTERY WILL HAVE:

-stable glazes that fit the clay body

-both clay and glazes fired to maturity

-NO glaze flaws – eg - pin-holes, blistering, pitting, shivering, bloating, crazing or crawling

-rims and bases smooth on a steady pot

-lids that fit well

-handles that are secure and functional

-pouring containers that can be filled to capacity and do not drip.

-decoration, joints and additions that are clean secure and sanitary

-no toxic elements (lead, cadmium, barium) in liner glazes that touch food or liquid

DECORATIVE POTTERY

-edges will not cause injury.

-post-firing treatments (eg paint) will be permanent and not flake off.

RAKU, PIT or SMOKE FIRED POTTERY

-each piece will be clean and free from debris

OIL LAMPS

-no matter how vitrified a clay body, oil seeps eventually. Any oil lamps will be accompanied by an additional non-porous base plate to protect furniture.

ELECTRIC LAMPS to be sold at KPG sales will have CSA approval label.

Technical Standards guidelines are not about rejecting pots, but working together to present our best work to the customer. Our Guild has developed a reputation for fine quality pottery. Customers rely on that. Do remember to pass a critical eye and hand over your pieces before presenting them for sale.

CONSUMER LABELS TO BE APPLIED TO THE FOLLOWING ITEMS: *Labels will be supplied by KPG Sales Committee to be applied by the potter.*

-Raku

Label: Raku – porous - decorative use only

-Smoke/Pit-Fired

Label: Smoke/Pit-fired – porous - decorative use only

-Unglazed Earthenware

Label: Unglazed earthenware – porous – specialized use and care

-Earthenware

Label: Earthenware – may not be dishwasher or oven safe

Crackle Glaze

-Label: Crackle Glaze – may stain in crackle

-Crystalline

Label: Crystalline Glaze – may have surface texture

Technical Reference: Mastering Cone 6 Glazes by Ron Roy and John Hesselberth