Hand Molded Pottery Guidelines

In conjunction to your pottery piece you will need to complete a notebook. This notebook should reflect your experience in the pottery project. It should be added to each year and have dividers which clearly mark each year.

♦ Beginning Hand-Molded Pottery (1st – 2nd year)
Exhibit to include Hand-Molded Pottery Project Summary Sheet, project notebook and one functional, glazed ware (any size) made using one of the following hand-building methods (pinch, pot, slab, coil or drape mold). Glazing method may include pouring, dipping or brushing on of one or more glazes.

♦ Intermediate Hand-Molded Pottery (3rd – 4th year)
Exhibit to include Hand-Molded Pottery Project Summary Sheet, project notebook and one functional, glazed ware (any size) showing advance in skills over previous year, or one wheel-thrown piece (any size). Glazing may include use of slips, under and over glazes, Sgraffito and spraying in addition to previous methods learned.

♦ Advanced Hand-Molded Pottery (5th year & over)
Exhibit to include Hand-Molded Pottery Project Summary Sheet, project notebook and one functional, glazed ware (any size) made using advanced methods of building, glazing and firing showing advance in skills over previous year.

The notebook should be set up with required items and optional, suggested items depending on what you have learned.

Each notebook is REQUIRED to have a Hand Molded Pottery worksheet which is available at the St. Joseph County MSU Extension office. The worksheet is the only required item, but remember that you need to complete a worksheet for each piece that you make even if you do not exhibit the work at the fair. Keep in mind, you should be completing a number of pieces, and then picking your best for the fair exhibit.

SUGGESTED ITEMS: To enhance your notebook, and explore pottery to its fullest, you may wish to include other sections. You are not required to add to your notebook beyond the worksheet. The following items are suggestions only, and you may become creative and add your own ideas.

1. Photographs of pottery (projects, member working on pottery, firing, making glazes, visiting pottery studios, gallery exhibits, etc.).
2. Definitions of pottery, methods and techniques.
3. Information form reading.
4. Newspaper/magazine clippings about pottery.
5. Photographs of art shows, schools and art galleries showing pottery work (ask permission to photograph first).
6. Drawings of future work to be completed.
Section I: Sketch of pottery piece with size and glaze.

- Inside glazed white
- White
- Dipped in green
- * Outside dipped in white
- Dipped in blue
- White base coat, blue next, green overlapped last.

Section II:

Size of wet greenware pot: \(2 \frac{1}{2}" \times 3 \frac{3}{4}"\)

Size of glaze fired pot: \(2 \frac{1}{8}" \times 3"\)

Bisque fire to cone: \(\Delta 06\)

Glaze fire to cone: \(\Delta 6\)

Type of firing: oxidation in electric kiln

GLAZE RECORD: (Include glaze name and application method – brush, pour, dip, sponge, spray, etc.)

- Inside of pot: white
- Outside of pot: white first, then dipped one section in blue, then into green.
Method/Procedure used to construct pot.

Coil built pot, smoothed out coils – no coils showing using a metal rib.

* Do not add glaze information here.

Positive points about piece (what you like): The white with blue over it looks good. Blue by itself is ugly and dull.

Things you would like to change: Green glaze is too dull. Maybe adding a clear gloss would help.

* Ask your leader for assistance. If you do not have a leader, call 279-9660 in the evenings after 7:00 p.m. and ask for Dorothy.