

Coloring Clay (Ceramics Handbooks)

Jo Connell

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From sugar whites and pastel pinks to toasted browns and deep sea blues, the wide spectrum of colored clay offers an array of possibilities for creative ceramicists. By using the clay itself as the sole means of decoration, potters can achieve effects that range from subtle gradation to dramatic shifts, all integrated into the structure of their creation. Working with colored clay demands a special, disciplined approach, but the rewards are many.

Beginning with a brief introduction to historic forms such as encaustic tile, sprigging, and art pottery, *Coloring Clay* explains the principal techniques for working with colored clay. This detailed, practical handbook takes artists though the clay and stain selection process to forming and firing, outlining proven procedures that produce optimum results. Readers will learn to use coiling and handbuilding for marbled effects, make Wedgwood-style applied reliefs, incorporate swirls and subtle hues into wheel-thrown pieces with mixes and overlays, or apply inlays to slipcast works for modern geometric patterns. Jo Connell also covers loaf and cane forms such as agate, nerikomi, and millefiori, as well as textural effects.

With dozens of color photographs illustrating key steps and methods and beautiful presentations of great contemporary ceramic art, *Coloring Clay* is sure to educate and inspire.



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