



Marjon Ceramics, Inc.

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Dry glaze mixing instructions

TESTING

Although all glazes are tested before shipping, it is essential that you test fire all glazes in your kiln before using them in production, since firing conditions vary. Marjon's liability is strictly limited to the replacement of defective material. It is also the responsibility of the user to properly test the end product to ensure compliance with state and federal laws regarding toxicity. Wear proper safety equipment when interacting with dry clays, glazes and other ceramic materials. It is the user's responsibility to be aware of local, state and federal regulations concerning safe use of these materials.

The following instructions and batch measurement guidelines are intended only as a general reference. Also, none of the information in this section applies to Laguna Raku; refer to the instructions specific to Raku glazes.

1. General: Laguna's dry (powder) glazes are formulated for spraying or dipping over bisque. To adapt these glazes for brushing, add brushing medium to the dry glaze powder in amounts as indicated below.
2. Referring to the batch measurement table, measure water into a clean plastic bucket.
3. Screen or sieve the dry glaze slowly into the water while continuously mixing. Scrape the sides and bottom of the bucket often and mix thoroughly.
4. Check viscosity with a hydrometer. The hydrometer reading should be approximately 55 for dipping color glazes, 46 - 47 for dipping clear glazes, 60 for spraying and 60 – 65 for brushing.
5. Glazes should be screened through the appropriate mesh to achieve the desired results. (Typically 80 – 100 mesh sieves.)
6. Glazes are usually best when they have been mixed and allowed to sit for a period of 24 hours before being remixed and then applied.

Batch Measurement Guidelines

For each 1 pound of dry glaze powder, use the following amounts of water:

Application	Water	*Brushing Medium
Dipping	11 fluid ounces	n/a
Spraying	8 fluid ounces	n/a
Brushing	7 fluid ounces	5.5 grams**(approx. 2 teaspoons)

* For best results, dissolve brushing medium in HOT water prior to adding it to the glaze.

**454 grams per pound



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Be sure to pick up a copy of “Specialty Art Glaze instructions” if you are using the following lines: Artificial Salt (EM1240 -1249), Crackle (WC130 – 141), Crystal Blossom (WC160 – 167), Cuerda Seca (EM1260 – 1274), Moonscape (EM1200 – 1228), Mystic (WC100 – 114) or Satin Texture (MS125 – 134).

Also look for our “Glazing Tips and Techniques” document for helpful hints.

Raku Glaze Mixing Instructions

Establishing the correct water to dry material ratio in Raku glazes can be challenging but by utilizing a process called slaking, the challenge can be met. Slaking simply means mixing the glaze’s dry materials in a bucket with enough water to allow all the dry particles to achieve maximum absorption. Follow these steps: slake your Raku glaze approximately 24 hours – long enough that the glaze settles to the bottom of the bucket and the “unabsorbed water” is clear, not cloudy. At this point, remove most of the clear water leaving $\frac{1}{4}$ ” – $\frac{1}{2}$ ” on top of the glaze. Mix thoroughly and allow glaze to sit for another 24 hours.

After the second 24 hour settling period, mix the glaze thoroughly to a consistency **a little thicker** than your final use consistency. To achieve this desired consistency, you may need to add a small amount of water but always stir the mix thoroughly **prior to adding any water** (see thixotropy below).

Strain the mix through a 30 – 40 mesh sieve into another bucket, then strain again back into the original bucket. You should be able to feel the glaze thin out as you mix it because of the thixotropic characteristics of the gerstley borate included in most Raku glazes. Thixotropy is “the property exhibited by certain gels of becoming liquid when stirred or shaken” (Webster). This makes it important to **always stir Raku glazes thoroughly before considering thinning with water**. It is not unusual for a Raku glaze to become slightly lumpy even after being strained and mixed. Some ceramists prefer that their Raku glazes be thicker than other types of glazes. We recommend running several tests to determine your individual consistency preference.