



# DIMENSIONAL CLAY SURFACES



## LESSON PLAN GOALS & OBJECTIVES

- Draw a design that transfers well as a positive and negative.
- Design a pattern with shapes to create a dimensional form.
- Study various printing methods and how they may transfer to ceramics.
- Learn how to use underglazes utilizing varying application methods.
- This lesson is suitable for grades 5-12.

## NATIONAL VISUAL ART & CORE STANDARDS

- Apply media, techniques, and processes of ceramics.
- Students analyze what makes a good positive and negative design.
- Students understand how to shape and alter clay forms.



## TOOLS & MATERIALS

- AMACO® Velvet Underglazes: Various Colors
- AMACO® Low Fire Glaze: LG-10 Clear Transparent (#39143R)
- X-Acto Knife or Scissors
- Brayer
- Craft Foam Sheet
- Masking Tape
- Drawing Materials
- Sponge and/or brush
- Clay (Sample project done using AMACO 25-M White Art Clay)

1



### WRAP AND TAPE NEWSPAPER AROUND A CYLINDER:

Wrap newspaper around a heavy cardboard cylinder or plastic PVC pipe. Avoid taping the newspaper to the cylinder so it can be removed later.

4



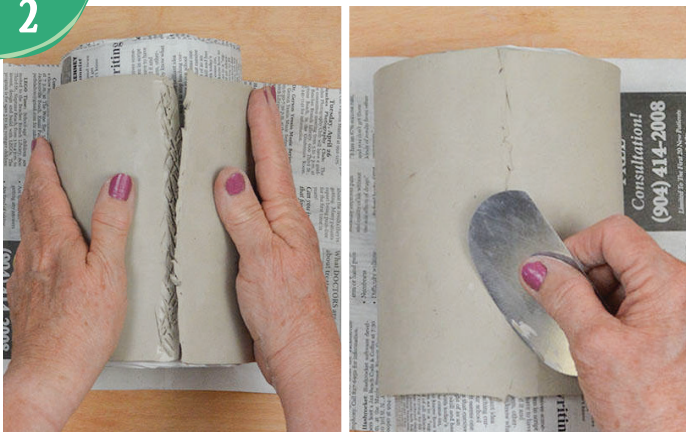
**CREATE PATTERN IN CRAFT FOAM:** Draw the design with a pen or marker and cut out the shapes. Leave the edges straight or cut them to suit the design.

7



**APPLY AMACO UNDERGLAZES:** Apply a thick underglaze with a sponge or brush. Using a thick underglaze will give better coverage on moist clay.

2



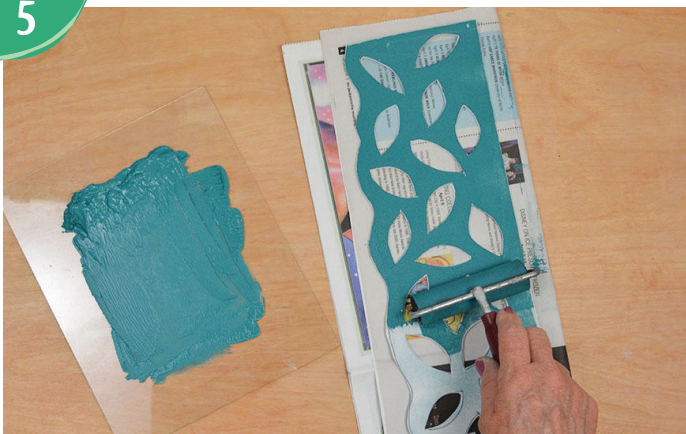
**PREP AND SMOOTH SLAB:** Roll a smooth slab that fits snugly around the cylinder. Cutting the seam at an angle will create a secure attachment. Smooth the seam so it is well attached and invisible.

3



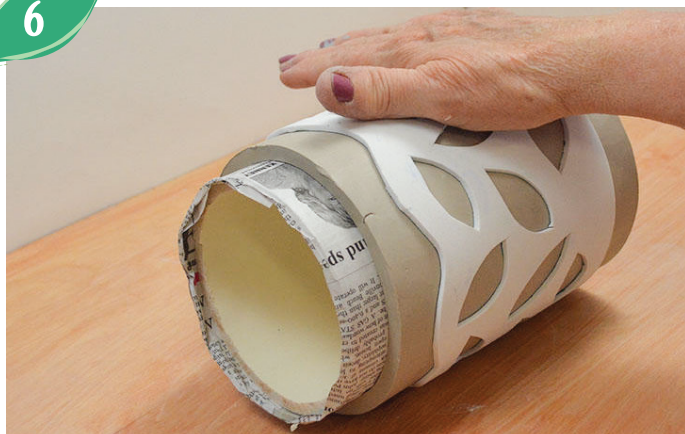
**WRAP THE CRAFT FOAM SHEET AROUND THE CLAY CYLINDER:** Cut the 3mm craft foam sheet so it fits snugly around the clay cylinder. Sheets that are too large or overlap will make printing difficult later.

5



**APPLY AMACO UNDERGLAZES TO THE CRAFT FOAM:** Use thick underglaze and a brayer to roll the "Underglaze Ink" onto the sheet foam.

6



**PRESS PATTERN INTO CYLINDER:** Wrap the inked foam sheet around the clay cylinder and secure it with tape. Ensure that the foam sheet is in contact with the entire clay surface. Roll the cylinder gently on the table.

8



**REMOVE THE CYLINDER AND PAPER:** Work slowly and carefully. Support the base and take your time to minimize chances of collapsing or distorting the piece.

9



**ACCENTUATE THE FORM:** Rub the clay from the inside so it protrudes through the openings.

10



**REMOVE THE CRAFT FOAM SHEET:** Support the form and peel away slowly. "Printing Plate" can be washed and reused later.

11



**COMPLETE THE BOTTOM BY ADDING A SLAB OR BY PINCHING WALLS TOGETHER:** The clay can be kept round or shaped. A slab can be added to create a bottom or simply pinch the clay together. Score and add slip if needed before completing the bottom. Score and add a coil to the inside seam that will help the form stay together when it's fired.

12



**ADD FEET OR MAKE THEM FROM EXISTING CLAY:** Use a paddle or a rolling pin to compress the seam and form feet.

13



**CUT THE RIM:** The top can be cut straight or trimmed to follow the design.



## GLOSSARY

**Printing Plate:** Substrate on which an image is engraved or cut into. The image is transferred to ceramic using Velvet 'ink'. (Learn how to make your own Underglaze Ink at [https://www.amaco.com/clay\\_how\\_tos/226](https://www.amaco.com/clay_how_tos/226))

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