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Workshop from Home with Amy Sanders May 6, 2021

- Amy’s studio is located in her back yard, in a separate building. It measures roughly 16x16-foot (4.8x4.8-meters). During the pandemic, she has been working at her kitchen table to be closer to her kids while they’re doing remote school. Amy notes that while it is not optimal, it has been the most logical solution to be closer to them when they need help.
- Her studio has the following large equipment: Slab roller, pottery wheel, extruder, pugmill, work table, shelving, and two electric kilns (7 cu feet, 10 cu feet) in an outside covered space.
- Amy uses Stan’s Red from Highwater Clays—a low-fire earthenware that fires between cone 06–02.
- She bisque fires to cone 06 and glaze fires to cone 03, with a 12-minute hold at the end.
- Slab building is Amy’s main building method, but she occasionally coil builds and throws certain forms that are later altered at the leather-hard stage.
- Amy uses colored terra sigillatas that she mixes herself (see recipe below).
- She mainly uses Amaco’s LG10 low-fire glossy clear and LM10 matte clear glaze. She mixes her own liner glaze (see recipe below).

Amy’s Favorite Tools

Shimpo banding wheel	Soft ribs
Dolan knives	Serrated ribs
Homemade texture tools	

<https://ceramicartsnetwork.org>
550 Polaris Parkway, Suite 510
Westerville, OH 43082

Amy's Suggested Tools for Working Along at Home

Knife	Metal rib
Needle tool	Serrated rib
Your favorite texture tools	Banding wheel
Drape mold	Soft leather-hard form to decorate (optional)

Note: Amy will be working with pre-prepared forms at various stages of dryness. Workshop participants shouldn't anticipate being able to finish the project completely during the webinar because drying times vary.

Glazing Materials

Darby Satin White (liner glaze): Cone 05–02

Gerstley Borate 45%
Spodumene..... 36
Silica 19
100%

Add:

Titanium Dioxide..... 5%
Zircopax 5%

Terra Sigillata Base

Water..... 2.0 parts
OM4 Ball Clay or XX Saggar ... 1.0 part
Sodium Silicate..... 0.5% of the weight of the clay

For instance, if you are using 10 lbs of clay, measure 20 pints of water and 22.7g of sodium silicate. This amount usually fits in a 5-gallon bucket. Pour the water in first, then dump the powdered clay on top, allow it to slake down, mix with a paddle mixer for 5–10 minutes. Add the sodium silicate and mix again for 5–10 minutes. Allow the mixture to settle 8 hours and siphon off the middle layer (water will be on the top, terra sigillata in middle, and heavy particles on the bottom). To make colors, add up to 3 tsp Mason stain or oxide for every 1 cup of base terra sigillata. You can also add up to 1 tsp of titanium dioxide per cup of terra sigillata for greater opacity in the surface.

Black Patina

Gerstley Borate 1 tablespoon
EPK Kaolin 1 tablespoon
Water..... 8 tablespoons
Add:
Black Copper Oxide 1 tablespoon

This should be very watery and the particles settle quickly, so you'll need to stir it often. Brush the patina over textured surfaces and rub off with a dry sponge (wear a mask please, if you do this) or wipe with a clean, damp sponge. If you use copper as a colorant, it tends to fume when fired in the kiln, so you may want to keep it off the bottoms of your pots.

Links to Amy Sanders:

<http://www.amysanderspottery.com/>

<https://www.instagram.com/amysanderspottery/>

<https://www.etsy.com/shop/amysanderspottery>

Amy's Instructional Video: <https://ceramicartsnetwork.org/shop/creative-forming-with-custom-texture-with-amy-sanders/>

Amy's Texture Tool Video Excerpt 1: <https://ceramicartsnetwork.org/daily/pottery-making-techniques/ceramic-decorating-techniques/genius-handmade-texture-tools-for-making-lines-on-pottery/>

Amy's Texture Tool Video Excerpt 2: <https://ceramicartsnetwork.org/daily/article/video-of-the-week-an-easy-to-make-custom-stamp-with-great-line-quality/>

Read *Terra Sigillata: Contemporary Techniques* to learn more about this fun material:

<https://ceramicartsnetwork.org/shop/terra-sigillata/>

[Ceramic Arts Network](https://ceramicartsnetwork.org/) is an online community serving active potters and ceramic artists worldwide, as well as those who are interested in finding out more about this craft.

CeramicArtsNetwork.org provides a wide array of tools for learning about and improving skills in the ceramic arts, and a place for artists to share ideas and perspectives about how their art and life interact to shape each other.

CeramicArtsNetwork.org provides a free daily newsletter, access to *Ceramics Monthly* and *Pottery Making Illustrated* magazines, and the International Ceramic Artists Network (ICAN), and links you to all the related products and services that these groups offer.

CeramicArtsNetwork.org is owned and managed by The American Ceramic Society, a more than 120 year-old non-profit organization that promotes the professional needs of the international ceramic arts community.

Access hundreds of the best clay art videos online anytime, anywhere! Our video streaming service [CLAYflicks](https://ceramicartsnetwork.org/clayflicks/) provides access to the entire catalog of the Ceramic Arts Network's pottery video series—professionally produced instructional pottery videos with some of the top ceramic artists working in the field! CLAYflicks also features original programming such as [Sights & Ceramics](https://ceramicartsnetwork.org/sights/), a travel show exploring clay communities around the world, and [Talking Clay](https://ceramicartsnetwork.org/talking-clay/), a conversational program hosted by Simon Levin featuring interviews with artists working in the field about anything from aesthetics, to process, to business and anything in between!

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