



Talking Clay Field Trip with Jared Tso Resources for October 17, 2023

- Jared Tso's studio is 10x10 feet
- Jared uses a variety of clays found in the Southwest US. They all have their own characteristics and personality. He will source different ones depending on if he is making decorative, small/large, or functional ware.
- Jared does not bisque fire in the traditional sense. He will take his pots up to 500°F (260°C) before he pit fires to ensure any residual moisture is baked out. Depending on the size of his work, Jared will use his home oven or an electric kiln to do this.
- Jared does not glaze his work. Jared's pit fires will reach anywhere from 1200–1800°F (649–982°C). These are estimates. He does not use cones. He judges the temperature based on feel, behavior of the flame, and experience. He will use a laser thermometer to track how evenly pots are preheating.
- He uses a variety of slips that fire various shades of orange, red, pink, and white. Most of the variation depends on the fuel he uses to fire. Some of these slip locations have been shown to him, or he commonly tests slips that he finds locally.
- One thing unique to Diné pottery is the use of pinon sap (piñon pitch). It acts like a sealant or "glaze." It is applied when the pots are still hot.
- Jared uses a combination of pinch and coil techniques.
- For tools, his favorite is a [MudTool rib](#) with fine teeth. He will commonly use needle tools, a variety of ribs, corn cobs, polishing stones, cotton cloths, and a banding wheel.
- [Mesh bags](#) for straining
- View Jared's grandmother's work: [Faye Tso](#).

Links from Jared Tso

www.jaredtso.com

www.instagram.com/jaredtso pottery

[Ceramic Arts Network](#) 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.

<https://ceramicartsnetwork.org>

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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.

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