

Workshop from Home with Milo Berezin Resources for February 19, 2026

- Milo works out of a second-floor home studio that's about 10 x 24 sq-ft (3 x 7.3 sq-m). His kiln is out in the garage.
- He uses [Standard Clay Company's #308 Brooklyn Red](#) clay, but will touch on how he adapts his techniques to different firing temperatures and clay bodies of various colors. Avoid heavily grogged clays.
- Milo bisque fires to cone 04, and glaze fires to a hot cone 6–7.
- All of Milo's work is hand-built, primarily using slabs—slab coils, soft-slab-building, and slab press molds. He loves the efficiency of slab building and makes use of every piece with very few scraps to reclaim. Some of Milo's work is pinched or traditionally coiled.
- Some of Milo's favorite tools are carving tools he makes himself. For decorating, his go-to tools are a cheap [milk frother](#), [fan brushes](#) (prefers size 4 and 6), Mayco [soft fan brushes](#), and [script liner brushes](#) (prefers size 2, 4, and 6). For building, his favorite tools are a potter's thumb, the [Mudtools red rib](#) and [small shredder](#), Mudtools [conical shredding tool](#), a plastic ruler with raised markings paired with a needle tool, and the [Princeton Catalyst polytip bristle #4 short filbert brush with long handle](#).
- He mixes his own slip, which is a version of Robin Hopper's Ubiquitous Slip (recipe below) that was modified to be a little more vitreous at cone 6. Other slips and firing temperatures can work but need to be tested for translucency and compatibility on top of underglaze.
- For underglazes, Milo has the most consistent success with [Amaco Velvets](#), but he does incorporate a few colors from [Kiwi](#), [Mayco](#), and [Standard](#).
- Milo uses a zinc-free clay glaze recipe (listed below) that was shared at his old community studio by Kevin Snipes.

Sgraffito/Carving Tools

- **DIY options:**
 - **Carving tool supplies**
 - A few squared wooden chopsticks (like from takeout restaurants) or similar for a handle—you could also use an unsharpened pencil, an old tool handle, a squared off dowel, etc.
 - [Aluminum roll flashing](#) (a full roll will last you an eternity, or share with your potter friends)
 - Scissors
 - Electrical tape

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- **Sgraffito stylus supplies**
 - [2-mm clutch lead holder](#). Alternatively, you can use a [single- or double-sided pin vise like these](#).
 - Diamond tipped Dremel bits in various sizes—Milo prefers [ball tips](#) ranging from 0.5 to 3mm.
- **Commercial tool options:**
 - [BuschKraft Dragonfly carving tool system](#)
 - [Sanbao sgraffito stylus tools](#)
 - [Diamond Core](#)
 - Fine Point carving tools - especially [FP4](#) and [FP1](#)
 - [Sgraffito stylus tools](#)
 - [Kemper WS wire stylus](#), can also be found at many pottery suppliers. Nice inexpensive carving tool but wears out quickly and ineffective on a drier pot.
- **Zinc-free clear glaze suitable for dark clay bodies:**
 - [Amaco's HF-9 zinc-free clear](#) is a good commercial option
 - Milo's recipe is listed below
- **Damp boxes:** technically optional, but extremely useful

Glazing Materials

Original Robin Hopper's Ubiquitous Slip Cone 04–12

Any Feldspar	5%
Any Ball Clay	75
Any Kaolin	10
<u>Silica</u>	<u>10</u>
	100%

Milo Berezin's Modified RH Ubiquitous Slip Cone 6–7

Minspar	20%
Nepheline Syenite	4
EPK Kaolin	8
OM4 Ball Clay	60
<u>Silica</u>	<u>8</u>
	100%

Notes: I'm using an adapted version of a flexible slip recipe from Robin Hopper. The original Robin Hopper recipe works well but is not very vitreous at mid-range temperatures. My changes make it more suitable at cone 6. Other white slips and engobes can also work, but test, test, test!

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Kevin Snipe's Clear Glaze Cone 6–7

Gillespie Borate	28.6%
Minspar	43.8
EPK Kaolin	12.4
Silica	15.2
	100.0%
Add:	
Bentonite	1.9%

Notes: This recipe is adapted from a clear formulated by Kevin Snipes for use at a community studio. If you prefer commercial glazes, I recommend Amaco HF-9 Zinc-Free Clear. Whatever you choose, make sure it is zinc-free!

Links from Milo Berezin:

Website: www.miloberezin.com
Instagram: www.instagram.com/miloberezin
Facebook: www.facebook.com/miloberezin
Email: miloberezin@gmail.com

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

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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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