15 tried & true raku glaze recipes

recipe cards for our favorite raku pottery glazes

This special report is brought to you with the support of Laguna Clay Company
Good news for those of you who raku fire and are looking for some new glazes and slips to try out! We’ve gathered some of our favorite raku glaze recipes in a convenient recipe-card format, perfect for printing and taking to the pottery studio. If you are interested in building a collection of beautiful raku ceramic glazes, or adding variety to the ones you already have, you’ve found the perfect resource. We have a great assortment including several copper matts, a white crackle and even a shino! Maybe you already have a repertoire of glazes but want to mix it up a bit; try experimenting with a flashing slip or a terra sigillata for a variety of surfaces in the post-reduction firing. Or combine several of the slips and glazes to expand your surface possibilities even further!

And remember, as with all things ceramic: results may vary! Use the various images here as a guide to the surfaces you’ll get, but be sure to always start out with small batches and have fun testing and tweaking! Now get out there and mix up some new pottery glazes!

## 15 Tried & True Raku Glaze Recipes

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Red/Bronze Raku Glaze
Cone 05

Colemanite . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 50.0 %
Ferro Frit 3134 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 50.0
100.0 %

Add: Tin Oxide . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 5.1 %
Copper Carbonate . . . . . . . . . . . 5.6 %

From Raku Firing: Advanced Techniques

Note: Colemanite is no longer mined so you will need to test either Gerstley borate or a boron frit as a substitute.

Hasselle Copper Matte

Black Copper Oxide . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 80 %
Ball Clay . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 20
100 %

Add: Bentonite . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 3 %

From Raku Firing: Advanced Techniques
Rainbow Sand

Bone Ash ........................................... 18 %
Gerstley Borate .......................... 71
Lithium Carbonate ...................... 2
Nepheline Syenite ......................... 9
100 %

Add: Copper Carbonate .......... 5 %
Cobalt Carbonate ............ 3 %

Copper Sand #3 – Tom Buck

Bone Ash ........................................... 14.0 %
Gerstley Borate .......................... 19.5
Talc .......................... 2.5
Ferro Frit 3195 ......................... 64.0
100.0 %

Add: Colbalt Carbonate .......... 2.5 %
Copper Carbonate ............ 4.9 %

Silver Cloud
Fat Crackle White

Ferro Frit 3134 ......................... 90.0 %
Kaolin .......................... 10.0
100.0 %

Add: Zircopax ...................... 10.0 %
Ferguson’s White Crackle

Gerstley Borate ............ 65 %
Tin Oxide ..................... 10
Nepheline Syenite .......... 15
Tennessee Ball Clay ........ 5
Silica ......................... 5
100 %

From Raku, Pit & Barrel: Firing Techniques

Kelley’s Low-Fire Shino

Lithium Carbonate .......... 26 %
Nepheline Syenite .......... 64
EPK Kaolin ................. 10
100 %

Add: Light Rutile ............ 6.0 %
Manganese Carbonate .... 0.5 %

This is a semi-opaque glaze with an excellent crackle texture and tan to silvery color characteristics, depending on firing temp. Works well in combination with other glazes.

From Raku, Pit & Barrel: Firing Techniques
Alligator Matt White
Cone 05

Bone Ash . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 29 %
Gerstley Borate . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 57
Nepheline Syenite . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 14
100 %

From *Raku, Pit & Barrel: Firing Techniques*

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Riggs Terra Sigillata

Water . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 3½ gal
Sodium Silicate . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 tbsp
Soda Ash . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1 tbsp
XX Saggar Clay . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 15 lbs

Mix ingredients and allow to sit and separate into visual sections. Gently siphon out only the middle section for use.

From *Raku, Pit & Barrel: Firing Techniques*
### Peel-Away Slip

Fireclay .......................... 60 %  
Kaolin .............................. 20  
Silica ............................... 15  
Grog (fine) ......................... 5  
100 %

Mix the slip to the consistency of pudding and apply. The slip will crack and during post-firing reduction reveal a smoke pattern when peeled off.

From *Raku, Pit & Barrel: Firing Techniques*.

### Coppper Matte

Bone Ash .......................... 17 %  
Gerstley Borate .................... 66  
Nepheline Syenite .................. 17  
100 %

Add: Copper Carbonate .......... 6 %  
Cobalt Carbonate .................. 2.5 %

### Reynolds Wrap

Bone Ash .......................... 23.3 %  
Gerstley Borate .................... 36.1  
Nepheline Syenite .................. 21.3  
Copper Carbonate .................. 21.3  
100.0 %

Add: Red Iron Oxide ............... 1.8 %  
Bentonite .......................... 35.0 %

*Ditum, Copper Matt background with Reynolds Wrap lines.*
Gold Crane, Post Pac Man and resist, no glaze for the black.

Post Pac Man

Bone Ash .................................. 14.5 %
Gerstley Borate .......................... 71.0
Nepheline Syenite ......................... 14.5
100.0 %

Add: Copper Carbonate .................. 14.5 %
Red Iron Oxide ............................ 0.1 %
Manganese Dioxide ...................... 0.1 %

Rogers White with brushes of Del Favero Luster. Embedded glass.

Rogers White (clear)

Cone 08

Gerstley Borate .......................... 60 %
Spodumene .............................. 35
Tennessee Ball Clay ..................... 5
100 %

Yellow

Cone 08

Gerstley Borate .......................... 80 %
Cornwall Stone ......................... 20
100 %

Add: Vanadium Stain .................... 6 %

The depth of yellow will vary depending on the stain you use. Add up to 5% tin oxide for a more opaque quality.

From Raku Firing: Advanced Techniques
Knowing what and when to buy and having the means to do so is the key to being a trustworthy supplier. Laguna Clay Company has 800 + tons of Gerstley Borate. It is of a consistent chemical composition and is available now along with hundreds of other raw materials you need. Visit our Gerstley Glaze resource at http://www.lagunaclay.com/support/pdf/Gerstley_Borate_Glaze_Resource.pdf for glaze formulas and Gerstley Borate tips.

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