



Firing Service Terms & Conditions

To ensure the safety of your work, others' work, the kilns and kiln furniture, please take a moment to read through and abide by the following:

We will **NOT** fire

- Work that is wet. Work must be **100% dry** when placed on the firing shelves. Evaporating moisture inside the kiln can cause the kiln to rust & can damage the brick, also, when moisture is heated, it expands and will explode. If work is cool to the touch then there is still moisture in it.
- Work that contains any foreign materials (paper, metal, wood, etc.) This burnout will damage elements.
- Glazed **greenware (raw clay)**. This can be hazardous to the work and the kiln.
- **Greenware** to maturity temperatures. As a safety precaution, all work must be **bisque** fired first.
- Work with glazed bases. This will stick to the kiln shelf during firing.
- Feeney's Buff Raku Trachyte will not be fired unless it is accompanied by a clay setter (see BRT)
- Solid or extremely thick pieces. Anything thicker than 5cm is likely to explode.
- Work that is hazardous to the staff or our kilns. Safety first!
- Homemade clay – all clays must be commercially manufactured.

We do **NOT** prepare work to be fired

- If your piece requires alumina hydrate there is a \$2 fee.
- Stilting is only available for **earthenware** work. If you do not have your own stilts, hire stilts are available at \$1 per stilt.
- If you have beads or small pieces they **MUST** be placed onto a bead rack or a small shelf first and only then placed onto the firing shelves. **You are responsible to load your own bead racks or small shelves BEFORE placing them on the firing shelves.** Bead racks can be hired for \$10 per rack.

PLEASE **DO**

- Make sure that your work is placed on the correct firing shelf & is **ready** to be fired. Putting work on the wrong shelf endangers everyone else's work in the kiln. If you are unsure, ask a staff member for help.
- Poke a hole in your piece if it is hollow and fully enclosed. This WILL explode if you don't (AKA Kiln Grenade).
- Write your name or uniquely mark your work to more easily identify and collect from the shelves.
- Get to know your materials. This is a fun process! Test new products and combinations. Be aware that some glazes run more than others. Educating yourself and becoming familiar with your materials will prevent some/most of any possible damage to your work, others' work and the kiln.
- Take your boxes with you; they will be recycled if left behind. Shelf space is limited & is not for storage.
- Bring your own box & packing material when you pick up your work as we do not supply these items.

PLEASE **DON'T**

- Touch or move another person's work.

DAMAGE

- If kiln shelves are damaged (due to overflowing glaze, work that has been placed on the wrong shelf, etc.) you will be charged a cleaning fee of \$15 per damaged shelf.
- If your work ruins a kiln shelf, you will be charged for the cost of replacing that shelf.
- If your work damages the interior of the kiln, you are required to pay a fine based on the severity of the damage to be determined by the manager.

Our Firing Service caters to a large range of ceramic work and because of this our kilns are NOT set up for production purposes. All kilns used are electric and only fire work under **oxidised** atmospheres. We take all precautions to ensure your work fires safely, but we cannot make any guarantees of final results. Ceramics is a volatile medium and occasionally mishaps occur. We strongly recommend that you do ample testing and leave sufficient time to complete any project.



General Firing Service

Our standard firing ranges are as follows

BISQUE 960° – 1000°	EARTHENWARE 1080° – 1100°
MIDFIRE 1180° – 1200°	STONEWARE 1260° – 1280°

General Firing Service drop-off & pick-up is available between 9.00am-4.30pm weekdays and 9.00am-3.30pm Saturdays.

- Firing is charged by weight at \$10 per kilogram with a minimum charge of 1 kilogram.
- You must pay for your work PRIOR to each stage of firing. Turnaround is 7-14 days.

On rare occasions, turn around may be longer if a kiln is experiencing issues or undergoing maintenance. Keep up to date on Instagram by following our Firing Service account @npsKILNS to see pictures of freshly opened kilns & to check if your work is ready for pick-up.

Please remember that the General Firing Service is a community firing. We take extra precautions to make sure everything fires smoothly, but work is always at risk - there are NO guarantees.

Because of limited shelving space, if ready work is not collected within a months' time, it WILL be disposed of, or become the property of Northcote Pottery Supplies. We do not like throwing away work, so please help by collecting it in a timely fashion.

Please note that whilst we take great care with your work, with our General Firing Service, we will not be responsible for missing work. We suggest you book a whole kiln if this is a concern.

Whole Kiln Hire

		W x D x H	
Kiln 1	XLarge	60 x 48 x 95	\$500.00
Kiln 2	Trolley	54 x 114 x 80	\$750.00
Kiln 3	XXL Trolley	106 x 92 x 114	\$1,000.00
Kiln 4	Medium	45 x 43 x 67	\$200.00
Kiln 5	Small	36 x 38 x 42	\$60.00
Kiln 6	Test	31 x 31 x 20	\$35.00

***These are the internal dimensions of the kilns & they do not account for kiln furniture size/spacing.**

***Some firings may incur a surcharge for extended firing lengths.**

- Whole Kiln Hire is booked on availability, and may be subject to a wait list.
- Whole kilns are booked with our Retail Staff and must be paid for in **advance**.
- Work for Whole Kiln Hire must be dropped off no later than 11am on the day of the booking or the booking **WILL** be cancelled.
- A \$20 fee will apply to any cancellations with less than 24 hours' notice.
- Whole kilns are loaded and fired by NPS staff, **NOT** the customer.
- If a booked kiln is 'Out of Service' when your booking date arrives, your pieces will be placed into our general fire.

Whole kilns can be hired for those wanting a specialised firing such as the ability to fire all of your work together in a single kiln, or the option to provide a custom firing profile, or to discuss special requests. If you are firing to a specific cone, temperature, or have a specific firing schedule you will need to provide your own cones or purchase some from our store. It is still necessary to bisque all work, we cannot take raw work to temperature or fire glazed green ware. You are responsible for the results of custom firings. Remember that every kiln is different. Achieving the same results in different kilns can be tricky even when firing to the same cone or temperature. We consistently use Orton witness cones for quality control; however, our firings are controlled by digital computers that read temperature, not heat work. Therefore it may not be possible to achieve unusual requests on the first try. We highly recommend appropriate testing is done before a final custom firing.



Buff Raku Trachyte - BRT

All work made from BRT require a setter.

During the second firing, the trachyte in BRT tends to melt and stick to the shelves, resulting in heavy damage.

To eliminate this we are asking anybody who works with BRT to make setters to sit your work on during the glaze firing to protect our kiln shelves as well as your pieces.

- Kiln setters protect the kiln shelf from glaze runs and contamination
- Setters can be made out of any claybody that is the same firing temperature as the clay you are using. E.g.: If you are firing your BRT to stoneware, you will need to make your setter out of stoneware clay.
- Kiln Setters should cover the surface area of the kiln shelf that your piece will encompass. You can create a flat sheet that is bigger than your item to sit the BRT piece on when firing.
- You will need to bisque fire your setter before using it in a stoneware firing.
- If your piece is really large you can always make a few smaller setters to elevate your piece off the kiln shelf.
- If you are making flat setters, you will need to dry them sandwiched between two sheets of board to ensure they don't warp.
- If you need any further assistance or tips for making setters, don't hesitate to ask one of our staff members, or email retail@northcotepottersupplies.com.au

Thank you, NPS