

Firing the Big Oval Kiln

Bisque fire (generally cone 06)

- When the kiln is loaded (making sure that proper cone is placed in the kiln sitter), lower the lid but leave it propped open 2” to 3” on a softbrick. Turn the kiln on (white “on” switch). Turn the vent system on (on the wall). Turn the bottom switch on low, skip a switch (leave it off), then turn the next switch on low. This means that 2 switches near the bottom of the kiln will be on low; the rest will be off. Turn the timer to 20. Leave overnight or approximately 12 hours. *Please note that with the bottommost switch, it is on whatever setting is lined up with the black line. This is different from the other switches.*
- The next day (or 12 hours later):
- Turn the vent system on again. Lower the kiln lid. Check to make sure the kiln is still on (you may need to turn the timer back to give more time). Wait one hour (or longer).
- Turn all switches on low. Wait an hour and a half (or longer).
- Turn all switches on 4. Wait an hour and a half (or longer).
- Turn all switches on high. Turn the timer back to 4 hours (*an important safety step in case the sitter fails*).
- When the lid is cool to the touch (this will take 24 hours), the kiln may be unloaded.
- *Students, do not fire this kiln unless you have been given specific permission. Danger!*

Glaze fire (generally cone 04)

- When the kiln is loaded (making sure that proper cone is placed in the kiln sitter), lower the lid completely. Turn the kiln on (white “on” switch). Make sure there is plenty of time on the kiln timer. Turn the vent system on (on the wall).
- Turn all switches on low. Wait an hour and a half (or longer). *Please note that with the bottommost switch, it is on whatever setting is lined up with the black line. This is different from the other switches.*
- Turn all switches on 4. Wait an hour and a half (or longer).
- Turn all switches on high. Turn the timer back to 4 hours (*an important safety step in case the sitter fails*).
- When the lid is cool to the touch (this will take 24 hours), the kiln may be unloaded.
- *Students, do not fire this kiln unless you have been given specific permission. Danger!*

Do not fire this kiln above cone 6.