



Clayworks

Kiln Temperature Test

Glass Stack Pottery Kiln Temperature Test

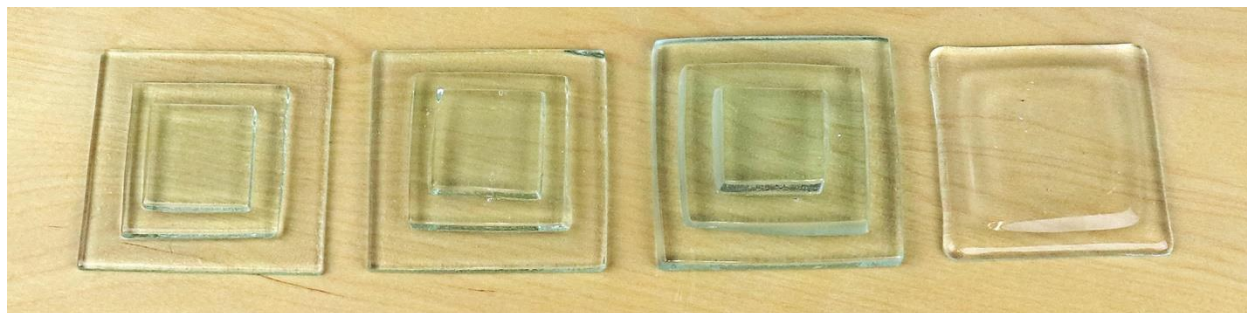
If you suspect the electronic controller on your pottery kiln isn't providing accurate temperature readings there are three ways to test.

1. Witness cones. Fire with witness cones.
2. Insert a pyrometer in one of the peep holes to read the temperature in the kiln.
3. Fire pieces of window glass in the kiln.

Because window glass is made in large volumes to high quality standard it will produce a reliable response to heat and because it has a very delicate response to heat it will clearly demonstrate even small differences in temperature.

The Test

Window glass (float glass) fired to tack fuse temperature 1425F (775C) will fuse together and soften JUST enough to slightly round off the sharp edges. A lower temperature will leave sharper edges. A higher temperature will leave more rounded edges.



3mm Float

4mm Float

6mm Float

3mm 96 COE



Kiln Test Set Up

Place a kiln shelf in the kiln elevated on kiln posts so it's level with the thermocouple. The only fully accurate temperature reading is at that level.

Place a stack of various size pieces of glass on the shelf. For my test I used window glass because it's widely available, you can often find scraps for a test firing and it's manufactured to a high standard of temperature accuracy.

Firing Schedule

1. 500F (260C) dph to 1425F (775C) hold 15 min (tack fuse the pieces together)
2. FULL to 1050F (565C) hold 30 min (anneal to avoid cracking)
3. 500 (260C) dph to 500F (260C) hold 0