



SEASONAL LIVING

Breathtaking Outdoors. Inspiring Indoors.



PRODUCT CARE INFORMATION

SEASONAL LIVING - CERAMIC FURNITURE & VASES / URNS

Ceramic is an inorganic, non-metallic solid prepared by the action of heat and subsequent cooling. Ceramic materials may have a crystalline or partly crystalline structure, or may be amorphous (e.g., a glass). Because most common ceramics are crystalline, the definition of ceramic is often restricted to inorganic crystalline materials, as opposed to the non-crystalline glasses.

The earliest ceramics were pottery objects made from clay, either by itself or mixed with other materials. Ceramics now include domestic, industrial and building products and art objects. In the 20th century, new ceramic materials were developed for use in advanced ceramic engineering; for example, in semiconductors.

The word ceramic comes from the Greek word κεραμικός (keramikos) meaning pottery, which is said to derive from the Indo-European word ker, meaning heat. Ceramic may be used as an adjective describing a material, product or process; or as a singular noun, or, more commonly, as a plural noun, ceramics.

HOW YOUR CERAMICS ARE MADE - Your ceramic purchase was designed in one of several countries including the United States, Europe and or Asia. Once we have created the design, our family of ceramic artisans, work hard to transfer that design into a unique sample. We then create a mold of the sample into which we press or pour wet clay. The wet clay then requires a few weeks to dry out – this cannot be hurried and is a natural curing / drying process. Once the clay reaches a certain stage of dryness, the clay product undergoes its first kiln firing to create a second stage of product known as biscuit or bisque. The next stage is to dip or spray glaze all over the product (inside and outside). Once the glaze dries, the product is ready for its final kiln firing. When the product leaves our kilns, it is undergoes a process of quality inspection for defects and faults before being packed. Please remember, all hand made products have their own character markings. This is not a mass produced item, so expect there to be minor flaws, this is perfectly acceptable in hand made ceramics. For more information on how our ceramic merchandise is manufactured, visit www.SeasonalLiving.com and click on Client Area on the home page. Educational and informative images and PDF documents are here to assist you.

ABOUT YOUR CERAMIC PURCHASE

A great deal of planning and consideration has gone into making your ceramic purchase provide you many with years of satisfaction. All of our glazes are made to the highest European Union environmental standards that insure that none of the glazes include toxic or poisonous substances to you, your family or the environment.

HOW TO CARE FOR CERAMIC PRODUCTS

CLEANING & PRODUCT CARE

- . 1) We recommend regular rinsing or wiping off dirt and debris. This will help to keep your ceramic products clean and looking perfect
- . 2) Never use hard power washing pressure or spraying devices as this could weaken the glaze surface and or break the glaze off the ceramic base
- . 3) Use clean cool water to rinse ceramic glazed product
- . 4) Use a soft, non abrasive, clean cloth to wipe off excess dirt or debris
- . 5) If necessary, apply small amounts of dish washing soap to the clean cloth to wipe over the ceramic surface and then rinse with cool, clean water and allow the product to dry naturally.

- . 6) DO NOT APPLY BLEACH, ABRASIVE CLEANERS OR ANY OTHER CLEANING DEVICE THAT MAY WEAKEN OR CAUSE THE CERAMIC GLAZE TO DISCOLOR OR WEAKEN

STORAGE / PROTECTION FROM WINTER/FREEZING CONDITIONS

- . 1) Never allow water or any other liquid to build up in or on top of any ceramic receptacle, failure to follow this, may result in your ceramic merchandise cracking, breaking chunks of ceramic or shattering due to the liquid or moisture freezing and expanding causing cracking / breakage
- . 2) We recommend that during extreme freeze conditions, that you cover and protect the ceramic merchandise with a waterproof tarp or furniture cover. Ideal covers include moisture proof barriers which prevent plastic covers freezing to the ceramic glaze.
- . 3) We also recommend that for some of our ceramic furniture items that the merchandise is raised off the ground a couple of inches (make sure furniture is stable and not easy to fall) to permit air flow and avoid thermal shock
- . 4) If possible, we recommend that during Winter periods especially in locations with prolonged Winter periods that the furniture is stored in sheltered locations away from moisture.

MOVING / HANDLING / PLACING YOUR CERAMIC PRODUCTS

- . 1) Ceramic is a heavy material, never try and lift or move merchandise without the assistance of another person(s). Doing so may cause you to fall, trip or hurt yourself or damage / break the ceramic item
- . 2) Use stable carts, professional grade dollies or other moving devices to assist you making sure the ceramic is protected from hard metal or wooden surfaces that may cause the ceramic to chip
- . 3) Only use ceramic merchandise in the manner for which it was designed. For example, use vases for decorative use and or displaying plants. The same considerations for ceramic furniture. Do not allow anyone to stand on or jump off or use ceramic furniture in any other way than it is described in the Seasonal Living catalog – for example: A table is designed to be used as a table not a seat, not for jumping on or off etc. It is dangerous not to use furniture in the manner it was designed or intended and can result in severe accidents or bodily injury and breakage or loss of ceramic furniture item
- . 3) When placing your ceramic products, assess the stability of each product. If

necessary add weight in the form of sand bags or gravel to weight your merchandise. Alternatively, consider using professional grade silicone to bond the ceramic to smooth stone surfaces. (We recommend that you seek professional advice before doing so and test the silicone for staining or marking on an inconspicuous area to insure no stains or marks are left behind)

Revised and updated August 25, 2014