## MASON STAINS



## **Using Mason Stains**

- To stain clay, or for brushwork over or under glaze: For  $\Delta 10$ : mix 1:1 stain to Custer Feldspar or Unispar.
  - For  $\Delta 4$ -6: mix 1:1 stain to Nepheline Syenite. For  $\Delta 06$ : mix 1:1 stain to Ferro Frit 3124 or Frit 3110.
- When making your own glazes, liquid glaze should reach consistency of whole milk. Add Mason Stains by weight as a percentage of dry ingredients. Use .5% to 3% for Green, Black & Blue, or 2% to 8% for Yellow, Pink and Purple.
- When mixing your own clay, add Mason Stains by weight as a percentage of dry ingredients: 2% to 5% for Green, Blue or Black, or 5% to 10% for Yellow, Pink, Purple.
- Engobes and underglazes should reach consistency of cream. Add Mason Stains by weight as a percentage of dry ingredients: 3% to 10% for Green, Blue & Black, or 8% to 15% for Yellow, Pink and Purple.
- When coloring moist clay, allow for 30% water, then add Mason Stains by weight as a percentage of the estimated dry ingredients (ie, 17½lbs dry stain out of 25lbs total wet clay weight).

## **Reference Notes**

- 1. Can be used as porcelain body stain at  $\Delta 6$  or  $\Delta 10$
- 2. Max firing limit 2156° F (1180° C)
- 3. Max firing limit 2390  $^{\circ}$  F (1310  $^{\circ}$  C)
- 4. Max firing limit 1976° F (1080° C)
- 5. DO NOT USE ZINC in glaze
- 6. Stain may be used with or without zinc
- 7. Zinc not necessary, but gives better results
- 8. Best results with NO zinc
- 9. Glaze must contain 6.7% 8.4% calcium oxide
- \* Zinc-free glazes should generally not contain magnesium oxide. Some stain colors containing zinc should be used in glazes without additional zinc. The zinc-free oxide can change the glaze's fired color.
- \* Calcium oxide content (in calcium carbonate) should be 12-15% for best color. Adding the molecular equivalent of calcium oxide with Wollastonite often gives better uniformity, but you should factor in Wollastonite's higher silica content.