

## Coil Pot


**Directions: Create a vessel using the coil technique. It must follow these guidelines:**

1. It must be the height of the large ribbon tool, including the metal loop. If your project is shorter than the tool, it is not finished.
2. It must be made entirely of coils – no slabs, shaped pieces, or other techniques.
3. The shape of the vessel must be anything but a straight cylinder.
4. The coils should all be roughly the same thickness.
5. There must be a decorative element using coils that is part of the structure of the vessel. Do not add anything onto the outside, including handles. Little balls of clay are permitted, as well as short, cut-off pieces of coil as decorative elements.
6. The interior must be water-tight. That means you must eliminate the seams on the inside **AS YOU BUILD IT**. That means you must eliminate the seams after **EACH** coil is added.
7. Use slip to join every piece of clay. You do not have to score the pieces, as scoring them might cut all the way through them.
8. Be sure you cover what you've already completed with a plastic bag while you roll out a new coil. Coils dry out pretty quickly.

### Some Helpful Hints:

1. Don't take too much clay at a time. The coil will end up being too long, which will make it flop around and possibly crack.
2. Don't take too long to make your coils. The longer you take, the faster they dry.
3. Don't try to roll the coils too quickly. If they go flat, it means you're pushing too hard. If that happens, just roll the flattened coil lightly until it rounds out.
4. Don't make the coils too thin. They usually dry out and crack very easily. They should be no thinner than a pencil.
5. When you bend the coils, push inward to reduce the chance of the clay cracking.
6. If you are adding a decorative element, like a spiral or a series of short pieces, assemble them and eliminate the seams on the back **BEFORE** you attach it to the vessel.

### Some Good Examples:

On the following pages are some examples of coil pots. Some are glazed and some are not. Some are done by students, and some are done by professionals. You may take inspiration from some of the ideas you see, but do not copy another person's work. The examples with an  on them have features you should avoid (like using different building techniques, leaving open spaces, and not having a complete top), but you can still get ideas from them. Some are also too complicated for you at this stage of your ceramic journey.





