



# Pottery

## Merit Badge Workbook

This workbook can help you but you still need to read the merit badge pamphlet (book). No one can add or subtract from the Boy Scout Requirements #33215. Merit Badge Workbooks and much more are below: [Online Resources](#).

Workbook developer: [craig@craiglincoln.com](mailto:craig@craiglincoln.com). Requirements revised: 2008, Workbook updated: September 2008.

Scout's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Counselor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Counselor's Ph #: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Explain to your counselor the precautions that must be followed for the safe use and operation of a potter's tools, \_\_\_\_\_

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equipment, \_\_\_\_\_

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and other materials. \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Do the following:

a. Explain the properties and ingredients of a good clay body for the following:

1. Making sculpture \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Throwing on the wheel \_\_\_\_\_

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b. Tell how three different kinds of potter's wheels work.

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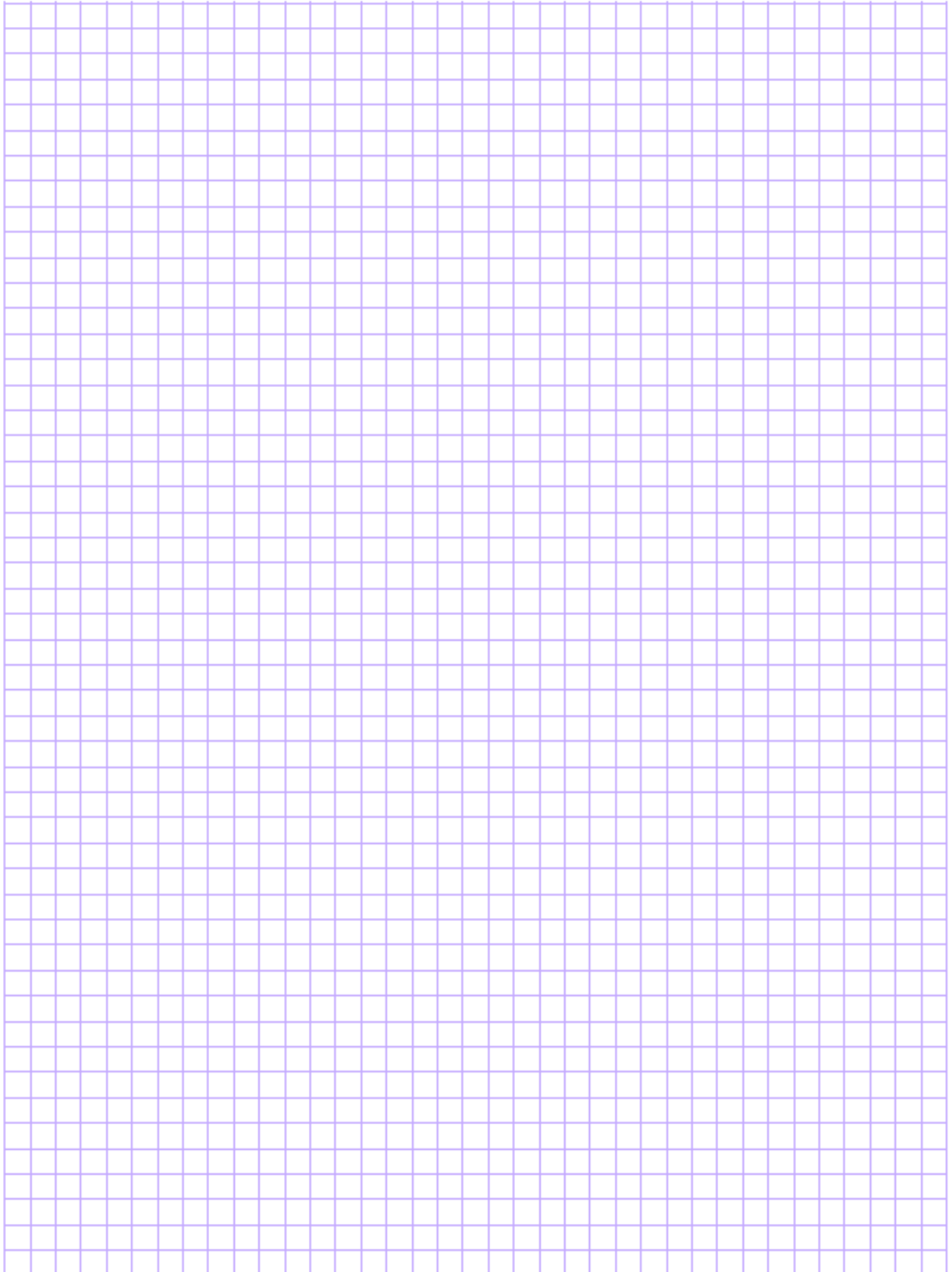
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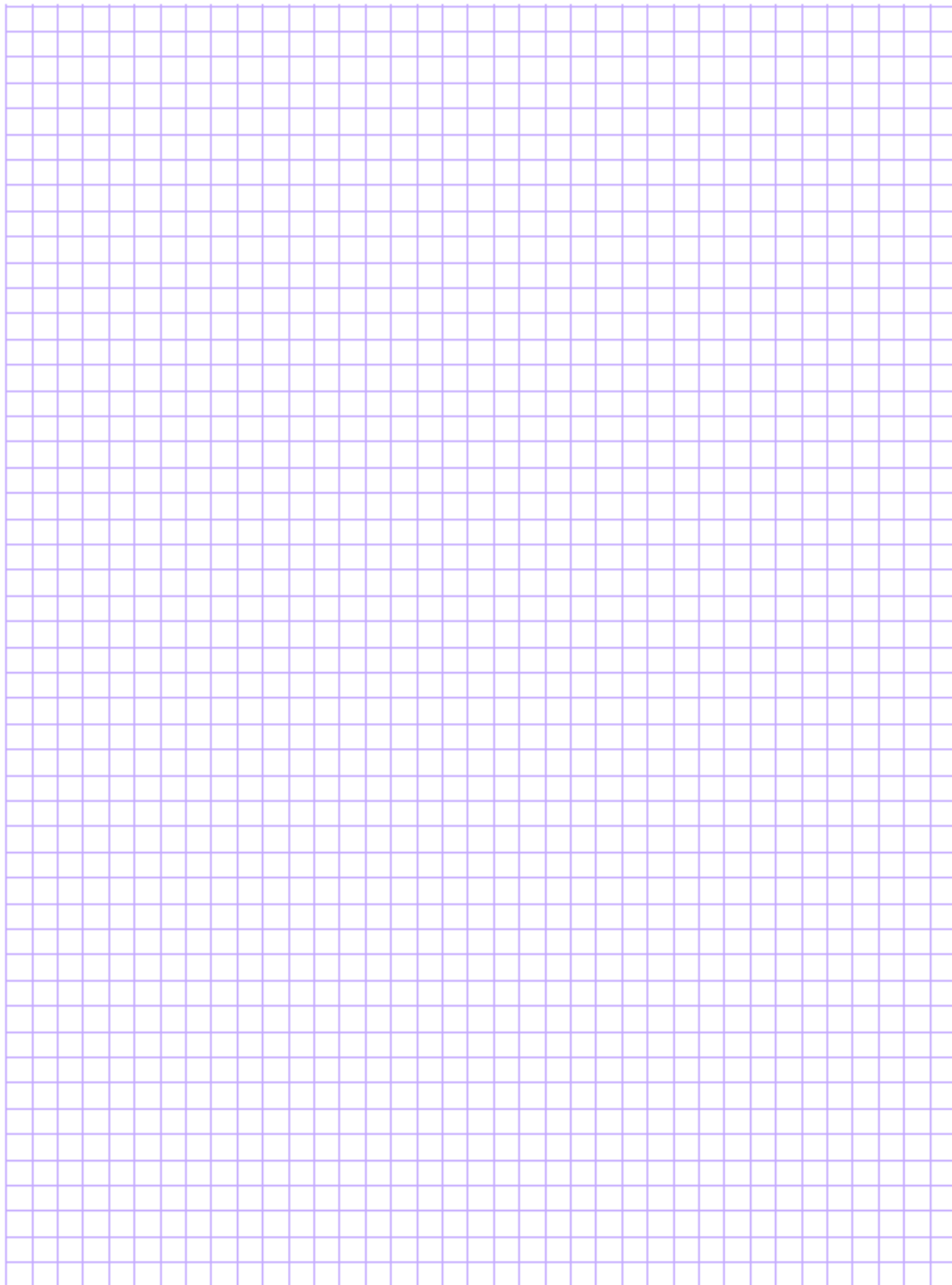
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3. Make two drawings of pottery forms, each on an 8 1/2 by 11 inch sheet of paper. One must be a historical pottery style.



The other must be of your own design.



4. Explain the meaning of the following pottery terms:

bat, \_\_\_\_\_

wedging, \_\_\_\_\_

throwing, \_\_\_\_\_

leather hard, \_\_\_\_\_

bone dry, \_\_\_\_\_

greenware, \_\_\_\_\_

bisque, \_\_\_\_\_

terra-cotta, \_\_\_\_\_

grog, \_\_\_\_\_

slip, \_\_\_\_\_

score, \_\_\_\_\_

earthenware, \_\_\_\_\_

stoneware, \_\_\_\_\_

porcelain, \_\_\_\_\_

pyrometric cone, \_\_\_\_\_

and glaze. \_\_\_\_\_

5. Do the following. Each piece is to be painted, glazed, or otherwise decorated by you:

a. Make a slab pot, a coil pot, and a pinch pot. \_\_\_\_\_

- b. Make a human or animal figurine or decorative sculpture. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Throw a functional form on a potter's wheel. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Help to fire a kiln. \_\_\_\_\_

6. Explain the scope of the ceramic industry in the United States. Tell some things made other than craft pottery. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

7. With your parent's permission and your counselor's approval, do ONE of the following:

a. Visit the kiln yard at a local college or other craft school. Learn how the different kinds of kilns work, including low-fire electric, \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

gas or propane high-fire, \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

wood or salt/soda, \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

and raku. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

b. Visit a museum, art exhibit, art gallery, artists' co-op, or artist's studio that features pottery. After your visit, share with your counselor what you have learned. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

c. Using resources from the library, magazines, the Internet (with your parent's permission), and other outlets, learn about the historical and cultural importance of pottery. Share what you discover with your counselor. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. Find out about career opportunities in pottery. \_\_\_\_\_

Pick one \_\_\_\_\_

and find out about the education, training, and experience required for this profession. \_\_\_\_\_

Discuss this with your counselor, and explain why this profession might interest you. \_\_\_\_\_

**Online Resources** *(Use any Internet resource with caution and only with your parent's or guardian's permission.)*

**Boy Scouts of America:** ▶ [scouting.org](http://scouting.org) ▶ [Guide to Safe Scouting](#) ▶ [Age-Appropriate Guidelines](#) ▶ [Safe Swim Defense](#)  
▶ [Scout](#) ▶ [Tenderfoot](#) ▶ [Second Class](#) ▶ [First Class](#) ▶ [Rank Videos](#) ▶ [Safety Afloat](#)

**Boy Scout Merit Badge Workbooks:** [usscouts.org](http://usscouts.org) -or- [meritbadge.org](http://meritbadge.org)    **Merit Badge Books:** [www.scoutstuff.org](http://www.scoutstuff.org)

[ExpertVillage Videos](#)

▶ [Making Pottery by Hand](#)    ▶ [Making Pottery with a Wheel](#)    ▶ [Pottery & Ceramics](#)    ▶ [Techniques](#)

Ceramics Monthly: <http://ceramicsmonthly.org>

Popular Ceramics: <http://www.popularceramics.com>

Pottery Making Illustrated: <http://www.potterymaking.org>

Organizations and Associations: <http://www.amartpot.org>

The American Ceramic Society: <http://www.ceramics.org>

The Pottery Studio: <http://www.studiopottery.com>