



All of the powders we supply at Hot Clay come as a 1kg amount. As a starting ratio we suggest mixing 1kg of powder with 600ml of water. Give it a really good mix, preferably with a [No Splash Glaze Mixer](#) or a [Glaze Stirrer](#). Add more water little by little until it meets a single cream consistency.

Some glazes such as transparent and white can be applied in a thinner consistency.

A more scientific method would be to measure the specific gravity of the glaze. To do this, zero your scales to minus the container from your contents. Then weigh a quantity of water (volume) of your choice, secondly weigh the same volume of glaze liquid. Once you have both weights, divide the glaze liquid by the water amount. With a good dipping mix you should be near 1.43 to 1.45.

Following a good mix don't forget to sieve the liquid, this will distribute the particles evenly and remove clumps of powder. Use a 60# mesh sieve for earthenware and an 80# mesh for stoneware. [Hot Clay Sieves](#).

A traditional test is sometimes advised in which you can judge the consistency of your glaze by letting it run off your hands. However, we would avoid this as there are glazes which contain toxic materials which can irritate the skin.

Further information

Different powders will need different water ratios. An average glaze requires 750ml – 800ml of water to the Kg, this is why we advise you start with 600ml. Other substances can be added to the glaze to give good adherence to the pot and to overcome any problems with the clay. A good dipping mix will dry quickly so it does not drip and run, but sometimes due to the expansion and contraction of the clay, you may have to slow the drying. [CMC](#) or bentonite and ready-made products such as the [Vitraclay mixing medium](#) can be used as a work around. They are traditionally used in brush-on glazes but can be useful when there are problems such as crawling or if you want to overlay glazes.

See the relevant products for more advice.

All dipping mixes should be tested for their colour, drying speed and quality of glaze fit. We advise that you do not apply your dipping glaze straight to the final ware without knowing its fired finish.