## **Instructions:** Milestone Decals



## **Application:**

- 1. Remove the layer of wax paper.
- 2. Fill a bowl or tray with clean, room temperature water.
- 3. Soak each of your decal sections (one at a time) in the water until it starts to uncurl and relax slightly (don't leave them to soak for too long as they will detach in the water).
- 4. Remove from the water and allow it to rest for a few moments. You will notice that the decal easily slides around on the backing appear when gently moved. The decal is now ready for use.
- 5. Make sure your ceramic surface is clean as any dirt or grease will affect the fired result.
- 6. Pick up the decal with the backing paper and slide the decal from the paper onto your work. Do not apply upside down. Position the decal in the correct location and hold one edge with a finger. Using a squeegee remove all water and air bubbles from under the decal.
- 7. Wipe carefully with a clean cloth or paper towel to remove surface water.
- 8. When the decal has been on the ceramic for a few minutes, it cannot be easily moved so make a final check for positioning and bubbles.
- 9. Allow to dry completely for 4-8 hours before firing.

## Firing tips:

- Apply the decal to finished fired pieces. Decals do not fire very high so should be applied after the glaze firing.
- For best results, apply the decal to a white or pale coloured, smooth (ideally glazed) surface.
- Make sure the kiln is well ventilated up to 535°C (1000°F)
- The decal should be fired very slowly below 260°C (500°F)

Each kiln fires differently, below are suggested firing schedules only, results may vary so please use these schedules as a starting point.

Ceramic Firing Schedule			
Segment	Rate (Degrees/hour)	Temperature	Hold
Segment 1	28°C (50°F)	85°C (185°F)	20 minutes
Segment 2	83°C (150°F)	175°C (300°F)	15 minutes
Segment 3	139°C (250°F)	260°C (500°F)	15 minutes
Segment 4	333°C (600°F)	535°C (1000°F)	10 minutes
Segment 5	555°C (1000°F)	750°C (1382°F)	10 minutes

Cone firing: If firing using cones, fire at cone 017 or 016. If you have a slow setting on your kiln you can use it for the first part of the firing (below 500°F/260°C)

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