

Denver Glass Machinery

2800 S. Shoshone St. Englewood, CO 80110

(303) 781-0980 Fax (303) 781-9067

Web: www.denverglass.com

Email: info@denverglass.com

Fiberboard Shelves Burn-out and use

Your fiberboard shelf is a ceramic fiber insulation product. This material is most effective for use in production studios because it does not hold heat the way a ceramic clay shelf will. This allows, in many applications, the possibility of multiple firings in a day.

This type of product does need to be "burned out". Ceramic fiber products have binders in them. The organic binder burns out at approximately 600 degrees F and the inorganic binders burn out around 1200 degrees F. This "burn out" process needs to be done very slowly so the board will not warp.

Here are the steps for the first firing:

- Lay the board flat on the floor of your kiln. Do not use posts.
- Prop the lid of the kiln open about 1".
- Make sure the area is well ventilated. The aroma is intense (but not harmful).
- Set the program for 10 degrees per minute or 600 degrees per hour. Then set it to hold for one hour. Next, program another 10 degree per minute climb to 1200 degrees. Set your controller to hold, there for one hour and then shut off.
- Start your program and it is suggested you leave the room for at least an hour.

After the kiln has reached the 600 degrees F the worst of the smoke and smell will be over. It is natural for the board to turn black and for there to be some discoloring inside the kiln. The final ramp to 1200 degrees F will finish the burn-out. In some cases you may need to flip the shelf over and fire again.

After the shelf has finished burning out it will be somewhat softer than it was before. It is recommended that the shelf not be lifted in and out of the kiln. It should be flat on the floor of the kiln. Coat with glass separator (kiln wash) before use. Or use a sheet of fiber paper. When applying kiln wash, first paint good coat on with a Hake brush. Let this coat air dry overnight. Once it is dry, burnish it out lightly with your hand. This will help remove any brush marks and give you a smoother surface to fire on. In between firings, apply coats of kiln wash using a spray bottle. This type of shelf can produce very smooth finish if treated properly.