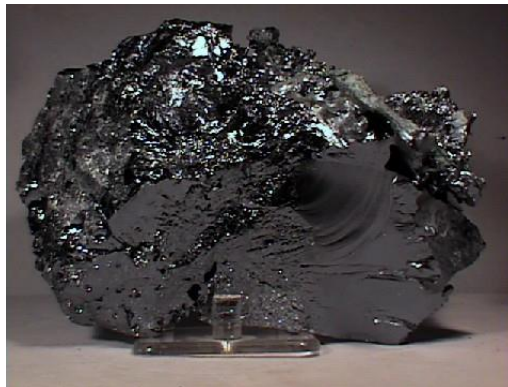


# Introduction to Clay

# What is Clay

- Clay is created as a result of decomposition of igneous rock, which makes up the entire Earth's crust
- Natural substance made up of water and other minerals found in the earth



# Clay vs. Ceramic

- **Clay is plastic** – the property of clay that allows it to change shape without tearing or breaking
- **Ceramics** – objects made from clay that permanently retain their shape after they have been heated to specific temperatures

# Stages of Clay

- **Plastic**



- **Leather Hard**



- **Bone Dry**



# Different Types of Wares

- Greenware



- Bisqueware



- Glazeware



# Early Uses

- Early **ceramics were** used primarily for:
  - Storing liquids and grains
  - Urns
  - Vases
  - Bricks



# Different Types of Clay

## Porcelain



**Extremely High Fire**

2,552 F



# Stoneware

High Fire – 2,185 F





# Earthenware

**Low Fire 1,700 to 1,922 F**



# Methods



- Pinching



- Coil Method



- Slab Building



- Molding

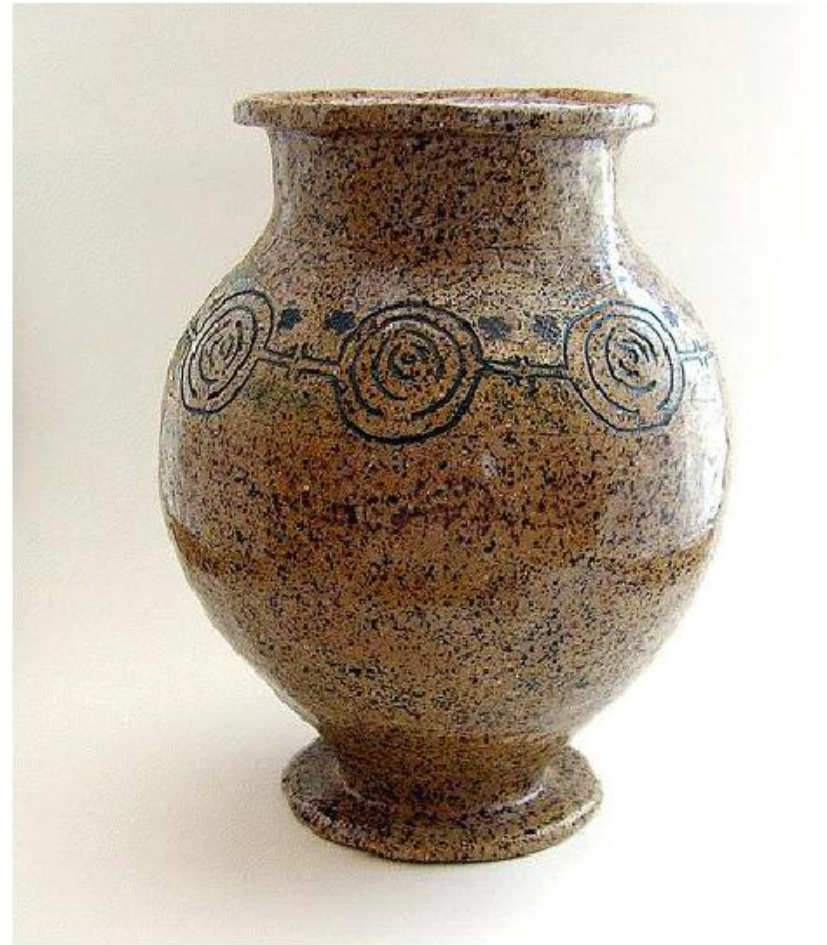


- Wheel Throwing

# Pinch

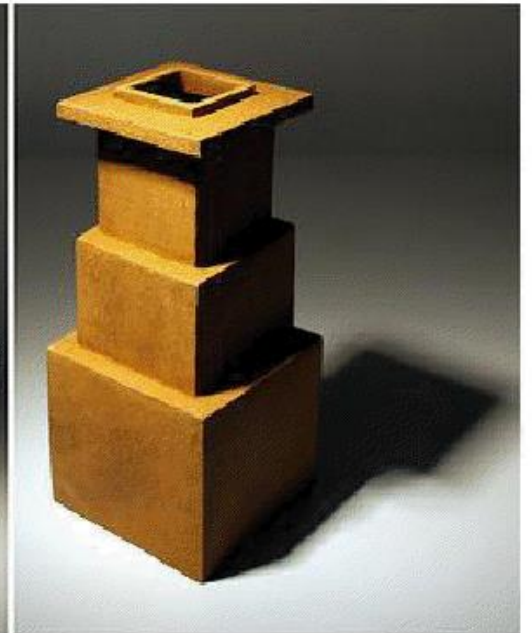


# Coil





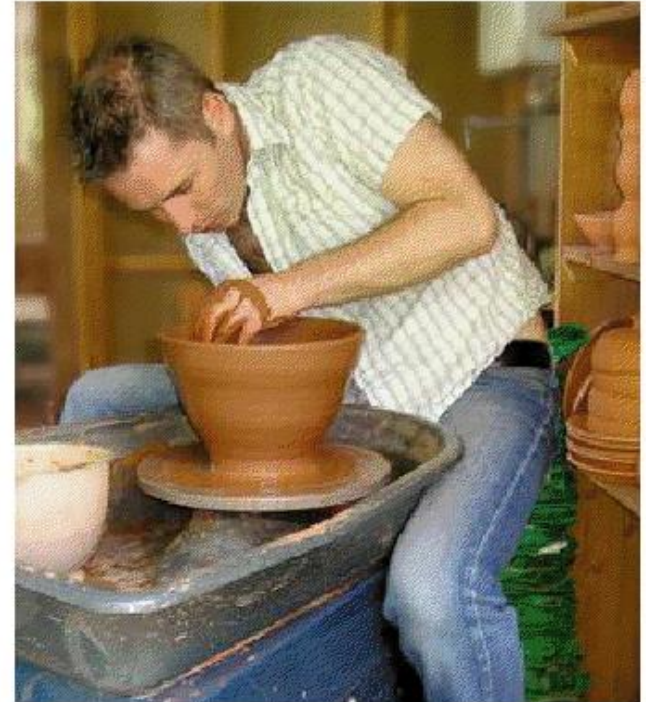
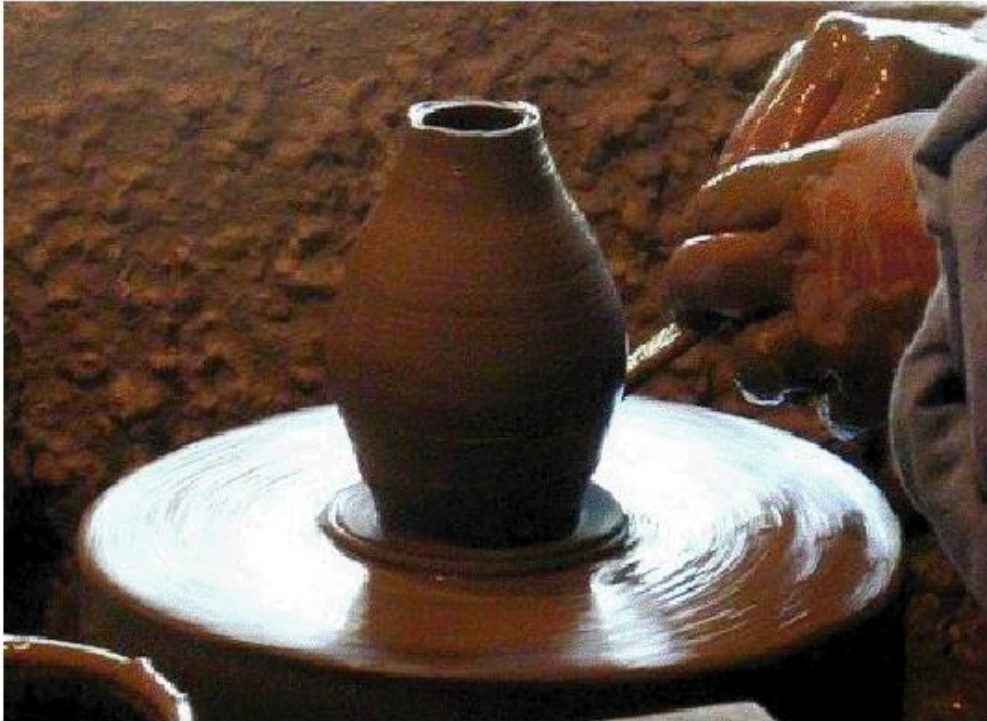
# Slab



# Ceramic Molds

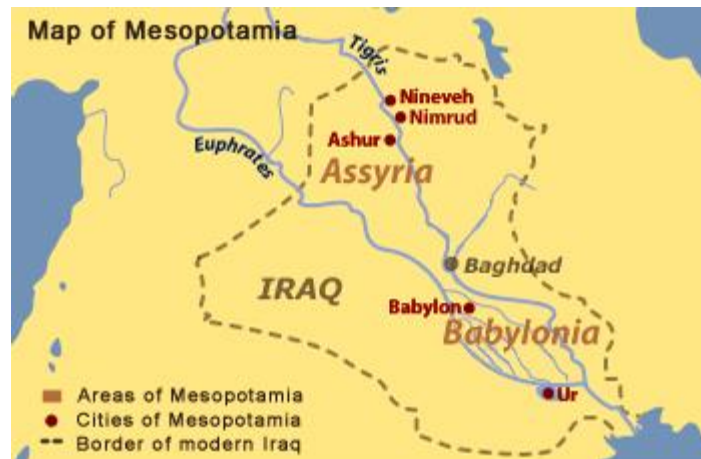
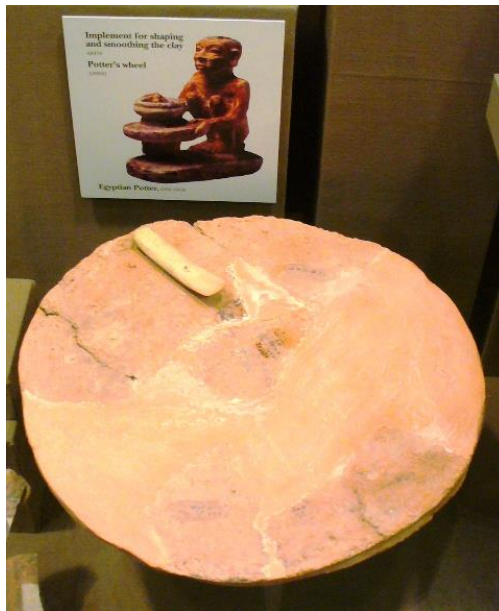


# Potter's Wheel



# Potter's Wheel

- The **potter's wheel** was invented in Mesopotamia in 4,000 BCE (6,000 years ago)





# Firing

- After drying, the clay body is fired (baked) in an oven called a **kiln**
- Over the years, potters have resorted to various types of kilns:
  - Holes in the ground topped by a fire
  - Coal or wood fired kilns
  - **Electric kiln**
  - **Gas kiln**





