

Vince Pitelka, 2014

Firing the Skutt Manual-Adjust Electric Toploader with Kiln-Sitter

Cone-08 Bisque-Firing

This schedule is appropriate for moderate to thick greenware which may still have noticeable remaining moisture content. With very dry, thin greenware you may decrease the initial preheat to four hours.

Setting Kiln-Sitter, Placing Cone, and Starting Overnight Preheat:

- Make sure all element switches are turned off.
- Set timer for 24 hours.
- Raise shutoff lever on outside of kiln-sitter, lower latch to hold lever in place, holding latch down until cone is placed. Lowering latch on the outside will raise sensing rod on inside of kiln.
- Place mini-cone 08 on top of twin cone support prongs and remove pressure from latch on outside, lowering sensing rod against cone on inside.
- Press in button in center of shut-off lever on kiln-sitter.
- Prop lid open 2"-4".
- Remove top and bottom spyhole plugs.
- Set **bottom switch only** on low.

The Next Morning or At Least Eight Hours Later:

- Re-set timer for 18 hours.
- Check button in kiln-sitter - if it has popped out (because timer ran down all the way) press it back in.
- Close lid, leave top and bottom spyhole plugs out.
- Set all kiln switches on **low**.
- After Two Hours – set all switches on **medium**.
- After Two More Hours - set all switches on **high**
- Verify that there is at least 14 hours remaining on timer.
- Eight to twelve hours later - cone deforms, sensing rod lowers, and kiln-sitter shuts off kiln. *

Cone-04 Glaze-Firing

- Make sure all element switches are turned off.
- Set timer for 16 hours.
- Raise shutoff lever on outside of kiln-sitter, lower latch to hold lever in place, holding latch down until cone is placed. Lowering latch on outside will raise sensing rod on inside of kiln.
- Place mini-cone 04 on top of twin cone support prongs and remove pressure from latch on outside, lowering sensing rod against cone on inside.
- Press in button in center of shut-off lever on kiln-sitter.
- Close lid and put in spy-hole plugs.
- Set all switches on **low**.
- Two hours later - set all switches on **medium**.
- An additional two hours later - set all switches on **high**.
- Verify that there is 12 hours remaining on timer.
- Eight to twelve hours later - cone deforms, sensing rod lowers, and kiln-sitter shuts off kiln.*

* Amount of time depends on density of kiln-load, age of heating elements, etc.