

Tennessee Technological University – Appalachian Center for Crafts – Clay Studio

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Weights of Clay for Common Thrown forms

This handy chart is courtesy of Lakeside Pottery in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, and provides suggested clay weights in pounds/ounces for various common thrown forms. As it says in the notes at the bottom, the height and width are measured on the wet form, and of course are variable depending on your own design, the thickness of the finished piece, and how much trimming you do. As soon as you make pots using these amounts, you'll find out whether you need more or less to suit your own style and inclinations. Once you do find an ideal weight for a particular vessel, be sure to make note of it and save that information.

No.	Finished Item After Firing *	Clay's weight lbs./oz.	Height inches **	Width inches **
	6 oz. coffee mug	10 oz.	3	3
1	8 oz. coffee mug	14 oz.	5	3
3	14 oz. beer mug	1 lb. 5 oz.	7	3.5
4	Saucer	13 oz.	1	5.5
5	Large dinner plate	4 lb.	1.25	11.5
6	Medium dinner plate	3 lb.	1	10
7	Side plate	2 lb. 3 oz.	1	8
8	Bread and butter plate	1 lb. 5 oz.	0.75	6.5
9	Large bowl	5 lb. 12 oz.	6	12
10	Medium bowl	4 lb.	4.5	10
11	Small bowl	1 lb. 6 oz.	3	6
12	Large mixing bowl	4 lb.	4.5	10
13	4 quart casserole	5 lb. 12 oz.	8	12
14	2 quart casserole	4 lb.	4.5	8.5
15	1 quart casserole	2 lb. 3 oz.	4	6.5
16	cream pitcher	14 oz.	5	3
17	1 pint pitcher	1 lb. 8 oz.	6.5	4
18	4 pint pitcher	5 lb. 12 oz.	14	6
19	Large teapot	4 lb. 6 oz.	8	8
20	Medium teapot	3 lb. 6 oz.	6	6
21	Small teapot	2 lb. 3 oz.	4.5	5
22	1 liter wine decanter	4 lb. 6 oz.	12	6
23	Small wine decanter	2 lb. 11 oz.	8	5
24	Large storage jar	5 lb.	12	5
25	Medium storage jar	3 lb. 6 oz.	10	4

* "Finished Item" assumes Clay's total shrinkage is 11-12%

** Height and width are to be measured on the freshly thrown pot.