

Making Underglaze

Today I want to show you how to make your own underglaze!

Applying underglaze is a good way to introduce some colour into your work. The colours assume a velvet matte appearance after bisque-firing. It is getting glossy when you apply clear glaze and fire it according to the glaze.

You could buy underglaze, but making it is a easy and cheap way.

We are going to need for the preparation

- Stain for ceramic
- Clay (maybe an unfired damaged pot)
- Water
- Container
- Fork / Spoon for mixing

We get started

1. Place some water in a container

100ml will bring you a long way.

2. I want some fine clay powder

Since I don't have dry ingredience like china clay, I am going to damage a bone-hard pot.

The clay makes the underglaze stick to the pot when I am drawing later on.

10% is a good amount. If you are mixin 100ml 10g of clay will be enough.

3. I do need some stain the same amount like the powdery clay

Make sure the stain is for pottery. The stain you might use for watercolours or other pictures is not usable, the colour will disappear while in the fire!

Again 10g of stain will be enough.

If you are using **oxides** (like cobalt oxide – instead of cobalt carbonate or black copper oxide) **half of the amount will be plenty!**

4. Mix the ingredience well.

After mixing I fill the underglaze in a small bottle.

I have an original bottle from Waikato Ceramics, but to mix it yourself is cheaper.

Use a tumbler, when you have one available and tumble it for 1 hour.

It makes the underglaze really creamy.

Buying underglaze in New Zealand:

Waikato Ceramics: <https://www.pottersupplies.co.nz/page/underglaze/>

Decopot: <http://www.decopot.co.nz/index.php/claybright>

CCG Auckland: <https://www.ccg.co.nz/craft/products/category/4438/underglazes>