

## Designing a Home Studio

Want to create your perfect space for your ceramic, pottery, or glass home studio? Not sure where to start? Follow this guide to help you create a space that is both functional and welcoming for you to make the most out of your home studio.



## Determining the Space

How much space do you have to work with? How much space will you require to hold all your products? Do you really need all of your treasures? You may be able to part with some items you have not used for years. Only keep the things you really need.

## Make a Floor Plan

Once you have determined the items that are really important and you want to keep, construct a list of them and begin to make a floor plan. Use graph paper to lay out your design. One square on the paper is equal to one foot of space.

## Plan your Wiring

What items do you have that will need electrical power? Check to see if the kiln you have, or plan to purchase will necessitate special wiring or require special voltage. Kilns and Venting will need to be checked carefully. Be sure the wire going to the kiln is heavy enough gage and the breaker is sufficient. It is better to install heavier gage wire than needed if there is a possibility you may upgrade to a larger kiln at a later date. It is much easier and cost effective to install wiring before all of the walls are finished. Check out the costs of switches and required materials to install the kiln or hire a registered Electrician. Also, you may consider having a Virtual Studio, this would also require special wiring and building considerations.

## Plan your Plumbing

Just like wiring, plumbing should be planned out well in advance if you plan to have a sink and running water. Do you plan to have a bathroom? Again, home improvement centers are a great help. Sinks are critical for cleaning a paint palette to a slip buckets.

## Walls and Doors

Make sure the walls are insulated. Drywall is always a great choice, low cost, ease of cutting and installing and the fact it could be painted any colour made the decision easy. Be sure to include a storage room.

## Shelving & Tables

Much of the shelving can be constructed with various shelving materials available at Home Depot and Ikea.

## Painting

A semi-gloss finish is suggested to make it easier to clean clay or dust from surfaces. Grey is the colour of choice so dust created by clay would not show up as easily. Avoid dark colours unless you plan to dust every day.

## Ceiling

Suspended ceiling work well since some venting and ductwork that exists along the ceiling and concern that future access to these areas may be required.

## Worktable

Make a decision to construct a suitable worktable that could be moved rather than install permanent counters. A good sturdy table is need if you plant to cast molds, wedge clay or make creations.

## More Than Just A Fired Arts Room

Your new room can be used to much more than just ceramics. It is ideal for other crafts and a variety of hobbies. There is still so more to learn including building paint shelves, venting your kiln, and adding a classroom area if desired. Look for other great ideas and inspiration on websites such as Pinterest. Have any questions? Feel free to email [info@ceramicarts.com](mailto:info@ceramicarts.com) or call us toll free at 1-800-265-3232.