

# Materials

## Working surface

- Pros use plaster or canvas over unsealed wood—you don't need these!
- A piece of plywood will do
- Marine grade plywood resists moisture damage
- Several different pieces allow for storing work

## Plastic sheets

- For regulating drying
- Dry-cleaning plastic and kitchen trash bags work great
- Clay bags and thick black trash bags work okay
- Grocery bags do not work

## Sponge and water vessel

- Clay “throwing sponges” cost about as much as kitchen sponges
- Large clay cleaning sponges cost slightly more
- Any sponge will do

## Wire tool

- For cutting clay
- Alternatives include string, floss, and uninsulated wires

## Basic wooden rib tool

- For compressing clay
- Also available in a other shapes and materials

## Needle tool

- For scoring clay
- Alternatives include toothpicks, needles, pins

## Low-fire clay

- A 25 pound bag is plenty to start
- Some clays have sand, ceramic dust called grog, or paper fibers mixed in
- Color may change during firing