

The Villages Ceramics Room

Membership & Safety Policy

To ensure a safe, respectful, and well-functioning ceramics studio for all residents, the following membership requirements apply.

1. New Member Pathway – Beginning Class

Residents new to ceramics must complete the Beginning Ceramics Class before becoming studio members.

- The class is 5 weeks in length
 - No absences are permitted
 - A class fee is required
 - All safety, glazing, and studio procedures are taught
 - Upon successful completion of the full 5-week course, participants will be approved for Ceramics Room Membership.
 - Membership in The Arts & Crafts Association
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2. Basic Knowledge Requirement

All studio users must demonstrate a working knowledge of:

- Clay types and proper handling
- Studio tools and their safe use
- Glaze application and labeling procedures
- Operation and safety of studio equipment
- Cleanup and shared space etiquette

This is required for safety, equipment protection, and fairness to other members.

3. Experienced Ceramicists (Test-Out Option)

Residents who already have ceramics experience and choose not to take the beginning class must:

- Pass a multiple-choice studio knowledge and safety test
 - Demonstrate familiarity with studio procedures
 - Those who do not pass the test will be required to enroll in the Beginning Ceramics Class before using the studio.
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4. Additional Membership Requirements

For safe and independent studio use, members should be able to:

- Lift and carry up to 25 pounds
 - Follow written and verbal instructions
 - Understand and carry out studio procedures for tools, glazes and equipment
- Independent open studio use requires the abilities listed above for personal and community safety. Residents who may need assistance with these tasks are welcome in Beginning Ceramics Classes.*
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5. Safety & Compliance

Membership may be suspended or revoked if a member:

- Repeatedly using equipment improperly
 - Fails to follow glaze or kiln procedures
 - Failure to adhere to rules of the studio
 - Creates unsafe conditions for others
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6. Our Shared Studio

This is a community workspace. Every member is responsible for:

- Cleaning tools and surfaces after use
- Properly labeling work
- Respecting others' projects and time
- Following all posted studio rules

Our goal is to provide a safe, organized, and enjoyable ceramics environment for everyone. Thank you for helping us protect the studio and each other.