CRAZING

is a network of fine hairline cracks that appear on the fired glaze surface.

During the glaze firing process, the bisque:

expands when heating

contracts when cooling

If the glaze shrinks faster than the bisque ware during the cooling phase of firing, crazing occurs.

TYPES

Immediate
You will see the fine lines as soon as you remove from the kiln.

Delayed
Work may not exhibit crazing upon firing but can display crazing weeks or months later. This is a result of a long period of tension between the glaze and underlying ware.

Moisture
It can also be caused by moisture getting into the ware, causing the bisque to expand and creating tension with the glaze.

FYI

Some glazes will craze naturally, and their effects are intended.

POTENTIAL CAUSES

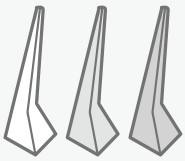
Opening the kiln too soon, creating thermal shock. Allow your kiln to cool to room temperature before opening 150° or cooler.

Placing earthenware bisque into the microwave or dishwasher or oven, where heat or moisture is absorbed into the bisque body, causing the glaze to fail.

Under-fired kiln

Using the wrong claybody

POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS



Use witness cones to verify the kiln firing.

If ware is under-fired, re-fire the bisque to cone 03 or 04 slow ramp/speed.

Make sure the bisque is properly fired to cone 04 which is two cones hotter (recommended) than the glaze firing of cone 06.