

Top Loading Kilns – General Instructions and Assembly.

Thank you for purchasing a Fired Up Kiln.

Our kilns have been securely packed for transport. Please note any damage that may have occurred in transit. Some assembly will be required when you receive your kiln. Please take the time to read this sheet, and don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about setting up your kiln. All kilns have been fully tested before leaving the factory, this involves two firings, one to 300c and the second to 1000c to ensure the kiln is ready to go when you receive it!

Castors:

All top-loader kilns up to Craft 3.7 are designed to have castors fitted. The castors have been removed to enable safe transport and will need to be re-fitted by the recipient. Please ensure that both nuts are screwed down firmly to the end of the screw closest to the castors. Screw the castor screw fully into the leg – a spanner can then be used to tighten the nuts. It is important that the castor screw is screwed in completely for stability. For our larger kilns (Craft 2.9 and Craft 3.7) the castors do add about 10cm to the kiln height – this may make loading difficult and you may choose to leave the castors off. They can be placed onto the legs should you need to move the kiln.

- Do not attempt to place the castors onto the legs without someone to assist you in keeping the kiln stable as the kiln may tip over causing severe damage.
- Ensure you place the kiln on a flat, non-slip surface when placing the castors.

Kiln Controller (VT36):

The controller is fitted to an arm to keep it away from the body of the kiln. This arm has been removed for transport purposes. The recipient will need to attach and secure it with the nut and bolt provided. You will find the nut and bolt attached to the controller arm stand. **Please ensure you tighten the nut and bolt attaching the controller arm to its stand very firmly to prevent it moving around.** The controller itself has been programmed with 12 pre-set programs. These programs have been compiled in conjunction with a number of leading ceramicists, they are provided as a guide and may be altered by the operator (see controller manual for procedure). There are screws in your accessories kit to attach the VT36 controller to the controller arm.

Safety Switch, Lid handle and Lid Stay:

All kilns are fitted with a safety switch which disconnects the elements from the electrical supply when the lid is lifted. Please note that this switch is not intended to be an isolation switch. After use the kiln should be switched off and isolated from the electrical supply either at the wall socket or at an independent isolator switch.

A lid Stay is provided which will allow the lid to be opened to a number of positions for loading and unloading. Lubricating the lid stay and the lid hinge will keep the items working smoothly. NEVER open the kiln lid during the heating cycle as this can lead to damage to the kiln as well as serious injury to the operator. The kiln should not be opened until the temperature is below 200c.

You will need to attach the lid handle to the lid using the screws provided.

NEVER ATTEMPT TO MOVE YOUR KILN WITH THE LID HANDLE – THIS WILL CAUSE DAMAGE TO THE HINGE MECHANISM.

Inspection Holes:

Our kilns are fitted with various inspection and venting holes. These should be treated with caution. During firing a significant amount of heat and hot gases escape through these holes. NEVER put your eyes or fingers close to them when the kiln is operating. Children should be kept well away from kilns – they are not toys! You will find a square brick in your accessories pack – this is the damper for the lid vent – you are able to control how open/closed the lid vent is. There is also a bung for the spy hole – it is very delicate – if the bung does not fit smoothly into the spyhole, just use some sandpaper to gently reduce its size.

Checks that should be carried out:

- Before operating your kiln read the Kiln Manual as well as the Microprocessor Controller Manual.
- Ensure that you are using the correct power source. Note the requirements are on the information plate.
- Do a visual inspection of your kiln before each firing, making sure everything is in place and secure, this is always good practice.
- Check the program that you wish to use by going through each step before starting.
- Always switch off your kiln at the wall after the cycle is completed and before moving your kiln.
- NEVER open your kiln when the internal temperature exceeds 200c.
- Prior to each firing, vacuum the inside of your kiln to remove dust and loose material, particularly any material around the elements.
- Treat the elements with extreme care. Do not bend or try to move them. After they have been fired they become brittle and can easily break.

Enjoy your kiln, fire safely, and please send us some images of your work (we love to see the results of our kilns).

We take great pride in our kilns and trust that your Fired Up Kiln will provide you with many years of reliable operation.