

Application

Cut out decals. Be mindful that the cover-coat can leave a slight residue or halo at the physical decal borders.

Soak the decals in cold water for about 1 minute. We recommend soaking only a few decals at a time because once the decal fully releases from the backing paper it is more difficult to handle. Warm or hot water speeds up the release.

Once the decal slides easily from the backing paper it is ready to apply. Remove oil and dirt from your ceramic surface by rubbing it with alcohol. Once the alcohol has evaporated apply a thin layer of water to the area that you want to apply the decal which will help you slide the decal around to adjust placement.

Once the ceramic surface is prepared, remove the decal from the water. Remember these decals are applied face up. Thus, there is no need to digitally reverse the image or physically flip the decal during application. With your fingers, slide the decal up so it extends slightly beyond the backing paper. Place the exposed upper portion onto the desired location of the ceramic surface and gently hold it in place with your finger. Gently slide the backing paper down exposing more of the decal. While sliding the backing paper down, let the decal fall to the ceramic surface from the top to the bottom. If this can be done in one motion you will drastically reduce air bubbles and water pockets under the decal. Keep in mind any pockets under the decal can blowout holes in the final image.

Before you press the decal in place you should still be able to slide it around to adjust placement. Once in place, use a rubber rib and compress the decal from the center out to remove any air or water pockets. If the ceramic surface is uneven be sure to rub the decal into any recesses the best that you are able. Keep in mind that warm water, although reduces working time, will make the decal more flexible.

With a dry towel, gently dab any remaining water from the surface. We recommend allowing your decals to dry for 24 hours before firing.

When firing, abide by all usual principles of not stacking glazed surfaces onto one another and firing the decals according to the following program. Optimal venting improves color development and saturation. Do any or all of the following if possible for proper ventilation. Use a kiln vent for the entire firing. Open all peeps and prop lid until 800 degrees at which point you can close the lid and all but the top peep for the duration of the firing. Open the kiln under 200 degrees.

You can gently buff the decal after firing with extra fine sand paper (320 grit or finer).

Firing Program

Segment	Rate (degrees/hr)	Temp. (°F)	Hold (minutes)
1	150	110	30
2	150	208	30
3	300	900	0
4	400-600*	1580	30

*400 degrees/hr is recommended to prevent stress cracks. This is important when refiring plates or larger work that might heat unevenly.