

Measuring Pots for Soda

When it comes to loading the soda kiln, the volume of pots that will fit into each load changes with each firing because it is dictated by the size and shape of the pots that are delivered. When it comes to measuring the volume of pots people bring, it is not a precise calculation for the same reason. To help you better understand and visualize how many pots can actually fit in half a cubic foot, below are two ware boards of pots, shown in different stacking configurations and from different angles that would be what I consider half of a cubic foot each.

Example 1 – all the pots stacked foot to foot, rim to rim on half of a 14x24in ware board with the heights all around 5 inches – some stacks are shorter and some are taller but visually they about balance out.



These 2 photos show the exact same pots, but laid out in a single layer like we would expect to see after they are glazed and out on the shelf to fire. It almost fills a full ware board - with so many short cups it gives the illusion of taking up more volume than you expect.



Example 2: This configuration includes a larger planter as well as a stack of plates and one tall skinny form that sticks up higher than the rest.



Once you lay them all out, then they do fill a ware board, but a little awkwardly given the leaf shape. In my calculations I average it out – it sticks out further on the sides but leaves space elsewhere. Since none of the plates are glazed, they can all remain stacked when putting out on the shelf to be fired.

