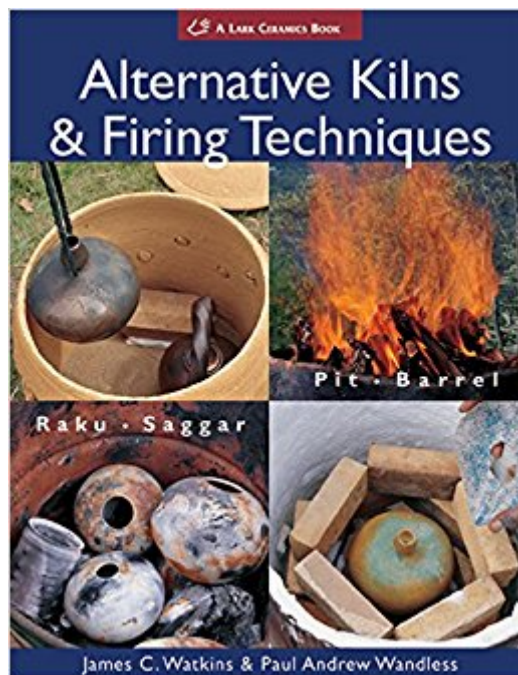




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# Alternative Kilns & Firing Techniques: Raku \* Saggar \* Pit \* Barrel (A Lark Ceramics Book)



## Synopsis

Ceramicists searching for new ways to fire their creations now have a wealth of options. Authors James Watkins and Paul Wandless, along with a group of distinguished artisans, demonstrate in detail how to build low-cost, low-tech, yet high-quality kilns. The plans range from an easy, affordable, and versatile Raku Kiln to a unique wood-fueled Downdraft Stovepipe Barrel one. These clever devices make it possible to produce rich surface effects from alternative reduction firing techniques. In addition to showing the basic procedures for using each kiln, easy-to-follow directions for many fast-fire methods unfold in color photographs: You'll see how to achieve terra sigillata surfaces with direct chemical application, and how to do traditional crackle-glaze raku and smoke finishes.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Let me preface this by saying that I am a relative newcomer to pottery. That being said, I found this book to be very useful. The sections on Pit Firing and Raku kilns were the main reason for buying this book, and I wasn't disappointed. The information is pretty complete and the plans for constructing your own kilns are well worth the cost of admission. I would definitely recommend this book for those looking to find an alternative to expensive electric kilns.

Great book but the binding/ cover was damaged.

I got this book after stumbling on a video of one of the authors on youtube. This is basically one of those "Here's how to do things wrong and still have it work" books, which is great. I love getting new ideas, and this book has /very/ complete details and instructions on everything from glazes to building a kiln in your yard.

Amazing like

Wow just a great book!

excellent info

My go-to book for my advanced ceramics class. Always something new to try. If you can supplement this with a Don Ellis workshop your life will be greater for it. The guy is so knowledgeable, humble, and hilarious!

Got a wheel and don't have thousands of dollars for a kiln? Here's your solution. This book shows you how to make and use several inexpensive gas- and wood-fired kilns. If you live somewhere you can light a fire outdoors, you can fire your own work. The directions are clear, complete, and the photographs are excellent. There is also a photo gallery of works fired using the methods detailed in the book. Several of these pieces are absolutely stunning. The book also led me to a potentially wonderful feature. Lark Books maintains a list of suppliers for the materials used in their craft books on their website, but I can't make it work. For instance, you can't just search for "fire brick" to find a vendor near you--it seems to want the name of a company. Hopefully, Lark will improve this feature works. If it were easy to use, it would be a great asset. They should also allow customers to look inside their books. They have top-notch art and excellent content. I can't believe they don't utilize the full value of these as marketing tools.

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