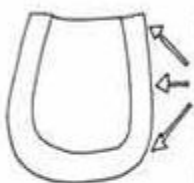




# Clay Pinch Pot

I think gentle and slow, when I am working with moist clay.

by  
M.C.Gillis



My goal, when first learning to form a pot (vessel), is to make the sides and bottom uniform (even) and not too thin.



This is not a good example. I do not want it thin in some places and thick in others. (Thin, uneven sides can weaken the pot and cause it to crack or break)

1)  
I roll a ball of clay.



(I do not over roll or over work the clay because it causes drying and cracking. It makes the clay difficult to work with.)



2)  
I gently push my thumb or finger into the center of the ball.



3)  
I press way down to the bottom, but not through the bottom.



4)  
Using my thumb and fingers, I gently pinch to widen the pot.



6)  
I flatten the bottom by gently pressing it against a flat surface. I smooth the rough spots. I can use tools or my fingers. I apply the needed pressure to get the job done.



7)  
I add details. I use my imagination. I place my hand inside my pot when I need added support. I do not want my pot (vessel) to lose its shape.

5)  
I gently turn the clay and gently pinch, and turn and pinch, and turn and pinch. I try to keep even pressure as I pinch.



I use a variety of lines and shapes to make interesting patterns.



Which clay sculpture techniques am I using?