

Tempering

Clay pots made from poor pottery clay will crack when fired unless something is added to the clay. Indians very quickly picked up on a variety of things that can be used as "tempering" agents. The simplest is to use clay with some sand added. Other tempering agents are: ground bone, crushed shell, and small pieces of already fired clay (i.e., ground pottery) called "grog."



BONE TEMPERED



SHELL TEMPERED



GROG TEMPERED