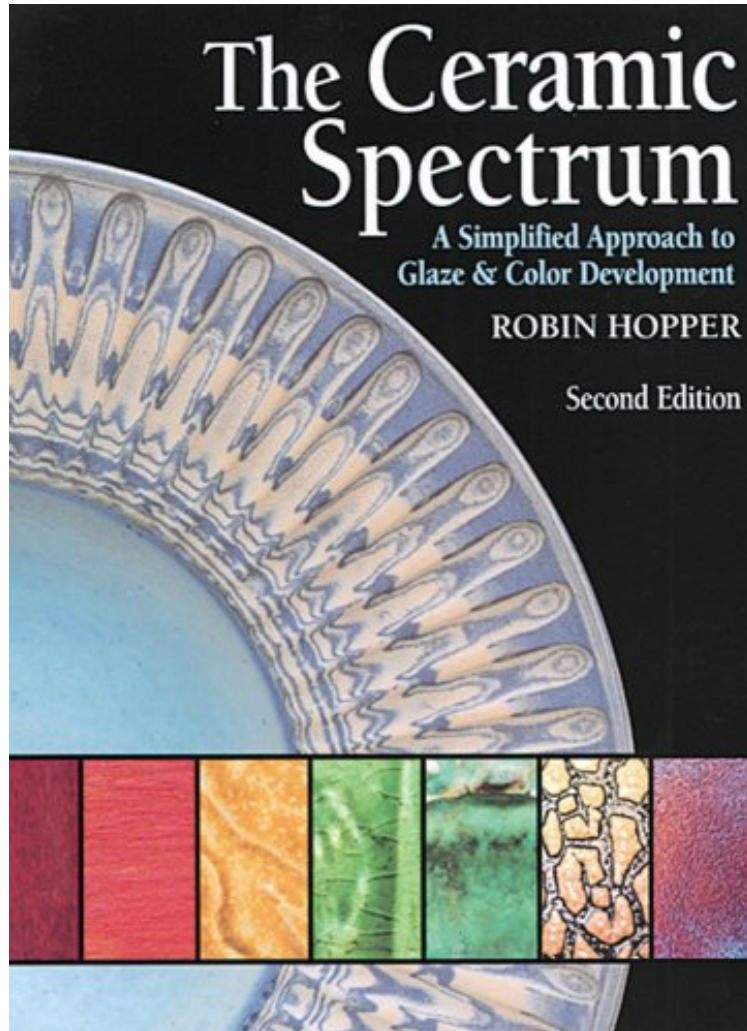


The Ceramic Spectrum

Robin Hopper

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Robin Hopper : The Ceramic Spectrum before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Ceramic Spectrum:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A must have for your ceramic library. By spud256 Love this book! I have had more inspiration from this than almost any other ceramic book that I have. I use it all the time. I bought it with another Robin Hopper book, Making Marks, as a set and I have used them and show them to others constantlly. Robin Hopper is the consumate potter..his style is comfortable, approachable, reasonable, and user friendly. I have even made that beautiful plate on the cover several times (it is not as hard as it looks). These books sit out on my work table almost all the time for reference. You can't go wrong with Robin Hopper!30 of 30 people found the following review helpful. Great book, great service from By CustomerThe Ceramic Spectrum is filled with detailed information

and wonderful color pictures of glazing procedures and results. Extremely detailed color pictures of different glazes, errors made during glazing as well as mixing or modifying glazes from existing compounds. This book covers details from simple glazing techniques to complex crystalline glazes, and textural glaze applications. It has detailed explanations of glaze testing, color testing, glaze application and application faults. Almost all subjects are covered with color pictures of different techniques, faults and treatments. A totally complex subject treated in understandable terms. If you want to mix glazes, understand glaze procedures and techniques, avoid common errors, etc. this is the book for you. Excellent. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Very well researched. By Daniel Bellas. Every thing you wanted to know about creating, making, testing, and fixing glazes. Great tips on coloration, color tests and recipes for both oxidation and reduction. As a ceramic engineer and potter this is a great understandable manual for the serious creative potter. Explains how and why glaze ingredients work or not and how to make them right.

The accepted standard for understanding glazes, this book explores glaze and color making in a hands-on way that follows the empirical understanding used for thousands of years. Hopper provides an impressive description of his extensive research into glaze, color, texture, and surface enrichment. It is the perfect practical complement to any glaze theory or process of calculation, including glaze calculation software programs. The Ceramic Spectrum is mainly a story of personal discovery over a 45-year period, of playing with materials and fire and observing their interaction, of looking at colors and textures in nature and visualizing how to achieve them with ceramic materials, of looking at hundreds of thousands of glaze and color tests, always looking for the elusive or the unknown and sometimes being granted the unimaginable. Long-term interests in geology and ceramic history have also fueled this passion to understand and use elements of the earth to create objects of both usefulness and contemplation. Hopper helps eliminate confusion for others through his personal experiences and observations with this medium. Pottery making is a continuum where one generation has learned from previous generations, some as a family pursuit and some through the inevitable seduction of material and process. The primary intent of The Ceramic Spectrum is not as recipe book, but to demystify an extremely complex subject. Although it has over 500 recipes, all of which work perfectly well and have been widely tested, they are given to suggest parameters in which these glazes develop, to show some of the variables that control both surface and color. This book aims to make available to the student of ceramics whether beginner, advanced, or professional an approach to the study of ceramic glaze and color development which does not rely on the use of published formulas, recipes or the mathematics of ceramic glaze calculation. Glaze making is a process of creative thought. It goes back to the empirical methods, through intuition and observation of materials and fire, in use for nearly 5,000 years before the understanding of glaze formulation by mathematical equation and molecular weight of chemicals. The aim of this book is to encourage personal curiosity and exploration of materials for glaze and color, so that anyone can develop their own glazes, without pain or anguish, and with a very exciting learning experience. The text is perfect as a course outline for either the individual or the group, where shared experiences tend to enhance and speed up the learning process. It should also be usable as a research tool for the understanding and development of colors, which may have previously seemed beyond reach. "For those who feel intimidated by chemical/mathematical formulation, it is my hope that in the exploration of this book it will be possible for the reader to find a new direction in the search for an individual idiom" Robin Hopper

From Library Journal. Veteran potter Hopper (Functional Pottery) has rewritten and updated another of his successful guides for studio potters. The new edition reflects the many changes in glaze technology since the first edition of this book was published in 1984. Most striking is the shift to all color photography of samples and finished pieces by other artists a necessity when discussing glazes. Although this is a technical work, the text is interesting and readable. It belongs in academic and specialized public library crafts collections, particularly those wanting to replace the first edition. Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc.