

## **Naked Raku Researches**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Raku has been one of the favourite firing techniques since it allows low-firing and offers a wide range of colour options on glaze. Ceramicists' researches in an effort to create different and alluring surfaces on a ceramic body have led to the enrichment of this technique with some variations. As a result of this quest, ceramic artists began experimenting with decorative effects on a ceramic body without using glaze in 1980s. Raku firing technique without using glaze, called Naked Raku in foreign sources, has two basic types, one-step naked raku and two-step naked raku. In one step naked raku technique a thick slip is applied to bisque fired ceramic pieces and it is fired while it is wet and then reduced. In two step naked raku thin/ thick slip is applied and covered with low- fire glaze and reduced.

The aim of this study is to examine the development process of naked raku and giving examples from artist's own experiences. The study includes today's raku production process, the characteristics of clay, slip and glaze used in this process, and the firing technique.

**Keywords: Ceramic, Raku, Surface Without Glaze, Slip, Naked Raku**