

## Ceramics II Ancient/Greek Pottery

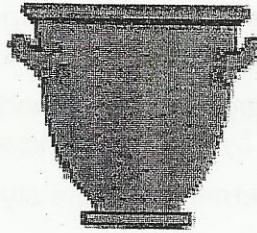
### HISTORY

Pottery is dated by form, color, and technique. Greek pottery is considered ancient pottery.

Specific shapes or styles of pots were used for holding liquids and other provisions. Among these were:



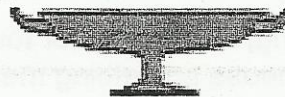
**Alabastron** – Thin, flat mouth with a concave neck and long, slightly convex body; used for holding oil, perfume and other precious liquids and as offerings for the dead



**Krater** – various bell shapes with wide, flaring mouth and two handles; used to mix wine and water



**Amphora** – somewhat oval with a wide mouth and two vertical handles and used for storage of wine or oil

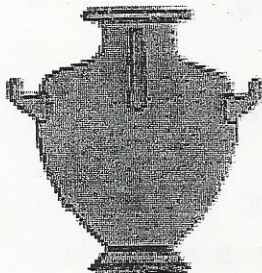


**Kylix** – shallow bowl with thick flaring stem and round handles; used for drinking wine mixed with water

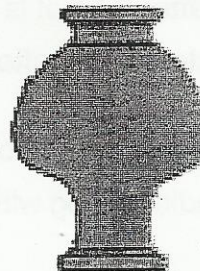
**Neck Amphora** - somewhat oval with a wide mouth, longer neck, and two vertical handles; used for storage of wine or oil



**Lekythos** – Cylindrical form with flaring mouth and flat shoulders; strap handle connecting the neck to shoulder; disk foot; used to hold perfumed oil and other precious liquids and usually used for funerary purposes



**Hydria** – rounded oval with a flat mouth, flattened shoulder, and three handles; one vertical handle at the back for carrying or pouring and two round horizontal handles for lifting; used to carry water



**Pithos** - usually very large and oval in shape; intended to be half buried and to hold liquids or grains

Greek pottery gives us an abundant source of information on the ancient decorating of pottery and about everyday life. Decorations and colors used on pottery help to determine the time at which it was made.

- **Black-figure technique** shows decorations painted in black and the ground in its natural ochre color; around 600 B.C.
- **Red-figure technique** shows the ground painted black and the decoration in the natural red color of the clay; introduced around 530 B. C.
- **White-ground technique**, the ground is painted white and figures in ochre and black; fifth century B.C.