

## **DESIGN AND CRITIQUE: REMINDERS**

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**A. Design determines how a vessel looks, feels, and works. Some major design elements we can vary are:**

- 1. Size**
- 2. Relative size of parts**
- 3. Lines**
- 4. Shapes**
- 5. Material used**
- 6. Type of finish**
- 7. Color**
- 8. Texture/surface treatment**

**B. Critique can lead to significant positive changes in the quality of work produced. Some ways to ensure that critiques are as good as they can be include:**

- 1. Remember that language matters. The use of the words “good” and “bad” can create barriers.**
- 2. Experts report that over 90% of our communication is nonverbal.**  
**A good critique begins by showing respect for the object. Handle the object like it is precious – because it is.**
- 3. Do not grimace or frown while looking at the object. That can trigger an emotional reaction in the creator that is greater than you might believe possible.**
- 4. Take sufficient time to examine each piece so you are able to form an objective opinion.**
- 5. Always be honest, but limit the number of suggestions to those that will be most helpful. A good maximum number is about three.**

