

SEVEN STEPS TO THROWING

1. **Centering**
 - coning up-wrap hands around clay; squeeze up into a cone
 - pushing down at a 45 degree angle- left hand pushes down, right pushes at 45 degrees
 - flatten - left thumb under right hand pushes clay down
2. **Center Hole**
 - thumbs back to back
 - find center
 - go down to about a 1/2 inch from wheel
3. **Establish Bottom**
 - using left hand / middle fingers dig a level base leaving about 1/2 inch from wall
4. **Smooth Bottom/Lip**
 - using left hand / fingers apply pressure back and forth on bottom
 - using both hands / fingers gently apply pressure on the lip
5. **Pull Walls**
 - elbows in; lock thumbs
 - with left hand inside, match finger tips at base; squeeze
 - lift hands and clay up and in
 - massage lip
6. **Shaping Pot**
 - With the pulling motion, direct the clay out or in as needed.
 - Fingers may “mismatch” to create a belly or neck.
7. **Finishing Steps**
 - Same as a pull with no pressure, use a metal rib to clean slip off of outside
 - Clean lip with wet paper towel, wrap with pressure
 - Clean foot of vase by trimming extra clay with modeling tool at angle

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