

WHITE SALMON WITH SPECKLES CC529SP

Increasingly popular for its friendly ways, White Salmon is a beautiful tight body and a close relative of porcelain. A good choice when you're after great color performance but don't want to sacrifice workability. The clay body is a porcelain-stoneware-hybrid that brings the best benefits of both types of clay. This variant is speckled with nontoxic, black glass frit speckles (instead of granular manganese which is the common ingredient for speckling other cone 6 clays).

White Salmon has also been reformulated to significantly lower the absorption percentage from 2.37% to 0.97%! This makes the clay much more durable and harder for utilitarian uses. Along with this we gave it a color tweak as the materials in the clay had started to trend towards a yellow tone. With a slight tweak we were able to bring down the absorption and color adjust from a yellow tone to a cool white.

Why we opted for black frit instead of granular manganese, which has been a mainstay in ceramics for decades. We opted for the black frit due to the health concerns surrounding manganese. Manganese when wet, can be absorbed through your skin in small amounts (with the real health risks posed are through ingestion and inhalation). When it is all too common for trimmings or clay to end up dried on the ground, crushed up, and then kicked up into dust we want to avoid exposing any of our staff or customers to the material as much as possible. Besides that, manganese puts off a relatively high volume of toxic gases as it fumes out during firing providing yet another reason to keep your kilns vented and to try and work with as little as possible. More information is being discovered about the toxicity of manganese, mostly to do with the toxicity caused by inhalation of fumes during the melting or firing process. It has been linked to neurological conditions that mimic the symptoms of Parkinson's. Due to these exposure and health concerns, we searched for a clay and glaze alternative and settled on the use of black frit for your safety and health.

Black Frit Tips & Benefits:

- Frit does expand and poke out of the surface of the ware during and after bisque, these will melt down and integrate into the glaze to create speckles. Areas with no glaze might need some very light cold working with a stiltmark stone, sanding pad, or foot of another pot to knock down and smooth out and protruding speckles. Slight protrusions smooth out in seconds.
- Good for hand building or wheel throw work.
- If ribbing the surface smooth the black frit specks can end up pushed in and buried under a thin layer of clay. More often than not, the speckles will still worm their way to the surface during firing. We recommend lightly wiping the surface with a sponge to bring the specks to the surface if ribbing is done to remove the initial texture such as canvas, stretch marks, or scratches.
- Frit incorporates better into glassy glazes but matte glazes typically work as well. They might leave a small dimple on the surface where the glaze and frit speck interact.
- Opaque, dark, or colorant saturated glazes can obscure speckles a little, a slightly thinner coat of glaze in these cases will let the speckle pop better without diluting it out.
- Fits a majority of Georgies brand glazes (like normal White Salmon does) but leans towards the porcelain side of the expansion spectrum. As such, the recommended clear glaze for this clay is PG654 No More Tears Clear. This clay body will tend to fit lower expansion glazes better than high expansion glazes. Porcelain glazes would be more liable to fit instead of stoneware glazes, but this body rides the line in between so most stoneware glazes should work fine without crazing.
- Due to the frit being granular you will get drag lines and pock marks when trimming from the granule being pulled out and scrapped along in trimming. This can be remedied by trimming a smidge wetter and using a rubber rib to smooth the surface, cleaning up the marks and pushing the granules into the damp walls of the piece.
- Dishwasher, microwave, and oven safe

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