

# HOW TO WORK WITH CLAY SAFELY AT HOME

- Set up a designated area to work. This includes finding a surface to work on to protect your tables! You can make a canvas covered board, use a piece of drywall with the sides duct taped, or buy a slab mat online.
- Don't work on a table above a carpet, this can trap clay dust.
- Be sure to wet clean only! Clean with mops and sponges rather than sweeping/vacuuming.
- Use a scraper to clean up any scraps .
- To wash your tools/work area, you can use a 3 water bucket system in lieu of a sink clay trap.
  - Get 3 buckets and fill with water.
  - Label them:



CLEAN



CLEANER



CLEANEST

- First rinse your items/hands in the *clean* bucket, then the *cleaner* bucket with a final rinse in the *cleanest* bucket.
- This method allows you to fully clean without running water and having clay go down the drain.
- After clean up, allow the buckets to sit overnight so the clay material settles at the bottom. After the material settles, take the clean water off the top and throw the settled material away.
- Do not sand your greenware at home! ( same rule as the studio). We do not want to create dust.
- Come up with a plan on what to do with dry clay scraps. Are you going to recycle them or throw them away?

Questions? Email [kate@mudflat.org](mailto:kate@mudflat.org)