

How to select the right Skutt kiln for you

About Skutt Nomenclature

The chart below helps illustrate how to interpret the information found in a kiln's model number. For examples, we have used a KM1227-3PK and a KS818.

CONTROLLER	CHAMBER DIMENSIONS		BRICK THICKNESS	OTHER OPTIONS
	BRICK AROUND	DEPTH IN INCHES		
KM	12	27	-3	PK
KS	8	18		

Controller:

KM = KilnMaster
KS = KilnSitter

Chamber Dimensions:

After the controller designation, the next 3 or 4 digits describe the chamber size. The first 1 or 2 digits refer to the number of bricks used in each row of bricks. This determines the kiln's width. The other 2 digits refer to the kiln chamber depth in inches.

Brick Thickness:

-3 = 3 inch brick. If -3 is not present in the model name it has standard 2-1/2" brick.

Other Options:

PK = Production Kiln
ZC = Zone Control
30A = Designed to run on a 30 amp breaker (KM model)
P = Designed to run on a 30 amp breaker (KS model)

Your Skutt kiln should be with you for quite some time, therefore it is important to select the model that will meet your needs now and in the future. Many choices must be made and the process can seem intimidating if you've never purchased a kiln before. To help in your selection process, we have constructed a series of questions that should help you narrow your search to the models which will work best for you.

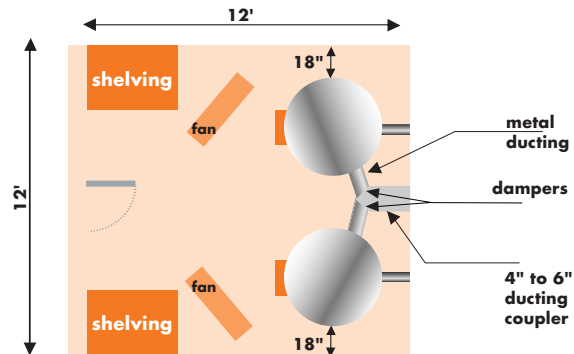
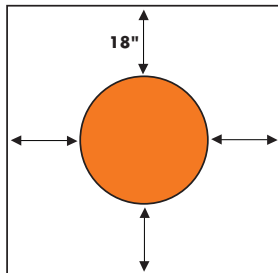
Which models will fit in the area I have chosen to locate the kiln?

Skutt kilns need a minimum 18" clearance from walls on all sides (see diagram below left). The outside measurements of the kiln can be determined by the number of sides of the kiln. As mentioned in the "About Skutt Nomenclature" box, the first set of numbers in the kiln model number indicate the number of sides in the kiln (example: KM1227-3 = 12 sided, KS818 = 8 sided). The chart below shows the outside width of Skutt kilns.

16 SIDED	12 SIDED	10 SIDED	8 SIDED	7 SIDED	6 SIDED
52"L - 36"W	34"	29"	23"	20"	17"

What is the largest kiln that will fit the area you have selected? _____

[18" CLEARANCE IS REQUIRED IN ALL DIRECTIONS FROM EDGE OF KILN TO WALLS.]



[TYPICAL LAYOUT FOR A DUAL KILN STUDIO]

Which models will fit the pieces I wish to fire?

Next, you need to find out if the chamber of the kiln will be large enough to fire the pieces you produce. The chart below lists the chamber sizes for each model.

The 3 things to consider when choosing the necessary chamber size are:

- What are the dimensions of the largest piece you will want to fire?
- What is the maximum volume of material that you will need to "produce" in a specific time frame?
- How do feel your needs will grow in the next 5 years?

1627-3	1227-3	1218-3	1027*	1018*	818*	7 14	614-3	609
46" Length	28.15" Width	28.15" Width	23.5" Width	23.5" Width	17.5" Width	14.4" Width	11" Width	11" Width
30.75" Width	27" Depth	18" Depth	27" Depth	18" Depth	18" Depth	13.5" Depth	13.5" Depth	9" Depth
27" Depth								

* Remember that on certain models where 3" brick is an option (not standard) the width of the chamber size will decrease by 1" if you choose to go with the 3" brick upgrade.

Given these considerations, what model has the smallest acceptable chamber size: _____

Which models will work on my power supply?

The next step is to find a kiln that will operate on the electrical service of your building. Ordering a kiln that does not match your electrical service can be very frustrating and expensive to correct.

Most people will need to have an electrician install the wire from the circuit breaker panel to the wall receptacle as well as the receptacle. It is also wise to have the electrician verify voltage, amperage and phase when he visits on-site to estimate the job.

Voltage – One of the common misconceptions regarding voltage is that “220” is an actual voltage reading in the USA. Rather, it is used as a generic term for appliances that can run on either 208V or 240V systems. As a general rule 208V is common in schools and businesses and 240V is common in residential areas however exceptions are quite common.

My building's voltage is _____

Amperage – Most buildings have a limited amperage available without having the power company upgrade service. In most cases it will be necessary to install a dedicated breaker to run the kiln. Your circuit box or fuse panel must have room for the breaker or fuse that corresponds to the model you choose.

My maximum amperage available for a new dedicated breaker is _____

Phase – Kilns can be wired for single-phase or 3-phase power supplies. Single-phase power supplies have 2 current carrying wires and a ground wire and are common in residential and industrial areas. 3-phase power supplies utilize 3 current-carrying wires and a ground wire and are usually only found in businesses and institutions. There are exceptions, and some buildings have both supplies available.

I have these power supply phases available _____

Will the kiln fire to the temperature I need?

Now we need to find a kiln that will fire to a temperature that meets, and preferably exceeds, the temperature requirements of the materials you will be working with.

Kilns are designed to fire to a variety of temperature ranges. Materials such as porcelain and stoneware require the kiln to reach temperatures up to Cone 10 or 2350° F and materials such as glass only require the kiln to reach less than 1600° F. Whenever possible you should choose a kiln that exceeds your firing temperature needs. The use of 3” brick, the voltage and the phase of a kiln model can sometimes effect its maximum rating.

Which models meet your maximum firing temperature needs. _____

Which controller?

The next step is picking a control device for your kiln. There are two choices, the automatic KilnMaster (KM) and the manual KilnSitter (KS). Consult the information on pages 6, 7, and 13 to help decide which is best for you.

Would you like a KM (KilnMaster) or KS (KilnSitter) controller. _____

What accessories and options do you want?

With these questions answered you should now be able to make a well informed decision on the particular model of kiln that will fit your needs. All that is left now is picking the accessory items that you like (descriptions are on pages 16-17). Place a check next to the items you would like to order.

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EnviroVent | <input type="checkbox"/> Furniture Kit | <input type="checkbox"/> Pyrometer* | <input type="checkbox"/> Timer* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3" Brick | <input type="checkbox"/> Zone Control | <input type="checkbox"/> APM Elements | <input type="checkbox"/> KM-1 Wallmount Controller* |

*Available only for manual kilns (KS series)

You should have all the information you need to take to your distributor for a price quote. If you would like a listing of distributors close to you please visit our website at www.skutt.com.