



A note from ●●●● customer service: slower is better.

Hi folks! As a Skutt customer service representative I've learned a few tips from your colleagues. Our most frequent complaints result from flaws caused by rapid firing.

After taking hours of time creating our pieces of art, we are all anxious to hurry the firing so we can see the final results. We overlook a basic firing principle: haste makes waste.

Rapid heating is very often disastrous, causing problems ranging from cracking to explosions. Unfortunately, immature bisque is not apparent until a glaze firing begins—when pin holes, craters and other defects appear. Porcelain can develop black spots known as mildew, which are visible after china firing.

To eliminate these problems, *slow down*. The slowest heating needs to occur during the first 1,200½ F of firing, when water and organic vapors burn off. After this point, a faster finish is usually okay.

So my friends, work on some new ware, read a magazine, do some exercises, or whatever you need to occupy your time while you give your Skutt kiln a chance to do its work. You won't regret your decision. Happy firing!

—Nancy

Quick Start— All you need to start firing now!

If you:

- are an experienced electric kiln operator,
 - know how to set up a new kiln and kiln wash shelves,
 - know about doing the first test firing, and
 - know how to load your ware—
- you can use the following Quick Start Firing Instructions.**

If this is your first new kiln, please take the time to read the set up and general ceramic information sections of this manual, for your safety and to ensure proper operation and long life of your quality Skutt kiln.

For those of you who have fired kilns before, this section offers a brief set of instructions for programming the controller in both Cone Fire and Ramp/Hold Modes. Be sure that your kiln is set up properly and your shelves are kiln washed.

Please refer to the section on The KilnMaster Controller for all the features, programming examples and detailed in-

structions on using the controller.

Activate the power source by plugging in the kiln or controller. "PF" will appear in the display window indicating that the power has been turned off for more than two minutes.

Press **Enter** to clear a message.

The touch pad will now respond to key presses. Press any key—the display will flash the internal temperature of the kiln. The controller is ready to program when the temperature appears in the display window. All programming begins when the flashing internal kiln temperature is on the display.

To change from the default setting of ½F to ½ C, press the **degrees F/C** key, then **Enter**. A decimal will appear in the lower right corner of the display window when in the centigrade mode.

You'll notice different default displays. The Alarm default is 9999. The Delay default is 00.00. Numbers to left of the decimal are hours, to the right are minutes. Hold default is 00.00, again in hours and minutes.

QUICK START: THE CONE FIRE MODE

The Cone Fire mode replicates your previous firing experience using cones in a kiln sitter. Use the **Hold** function to adjust your final results in the event the shelf cones are slightly underfired. Be careful not to add too much time (5-15 minutes is a good start). Please read Appendix 2 relating to Cones and Heat Work for more details.

1. From flashing temperature, press **Enter**, then **Cone Fire**.
2. Enter the **Cone number**. (Important: be sure to know the maturing temperature of your clay. For example, a Cone 05 is cooler than a Cone 5.) Press **Enter**.
3. Press one of the firing speeds, either **Slow**, **Medium**, or **Fast**. ●● Press **Enter**.
4. Enter a hold time in hours and minutes or zero for no hold time. Press **Enter**.
5. The display will flash two times, and then show the internal kiln temperature indicating that the kiln is ready to fire.
6. Press **Start**



**QUICK START:
THE RAMP/HOLD MODE**

Important: To effectively use Ramp/ Hold mode, it is imperative to understand heat work theory. If you know the theory well, and if you have had experience with other programmable kilns or controllers, then the Quick Start instructions at right will be useful.

If not please read the complete Ramp/ Hold instructions beginning on page 23, and Appendix 2 for details.

The Ramp/ Hold mode can be used for all firing applications from glass to high fire porcelain and stoneware. This option allows you to create your own profiles with up to eight ramp and hold segments. Each segment has three components: heating rate, temperature and hold. If you are programming to approximate cone numbers, be sure to review the Appendix 2 for information on heat work.

Before you begin input, create a chart with all of the segments you plan to include in your program. You may have fewer than eight segments, but no more. Select either °F/°C before you begin.

One can store up to six programs in permanent memory by assigning a USER number (program number) before inputting the required data. The next time that program is desired, simply select the appropriate USER number. When all USER numbers are programmed, it will be necessary to write over an existing number, which will erase it from memory.

1. From flashing temperature, press **Ramp/ Hold**.
2. Enter the **USER** Number of the program you wish to fire. If none has been entered, select 1. Press **Enter**.
3. Enter the number of segments in your program. Press **Enter**.
4. Enter the first heating rate in degrees per hour. Press **Enter**.
5. Enter the first temperature to reach. Press **Enter**.
6. Enter the amount of hold time in hours and minutes, or zero for no hold time. Press **Enter**.
7. Repeat instructions 4-6 for each segment that will be programmed.
8. Enter the **ALAR** alarm temperature, or leave at the default setting of 9999 by pressing **Enter**.
9. The display will flash - - - twice, and then the internal kiln temperature, indicating that the kiln is ready to fire.
9. Press **Start**.

Segment	Rate	Temperature	Hold
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			