



Safe Operating Procedures

SOPs are designed to help employees identify hazards, limitations, PPE, & safety training for specific equipment/tasks.
Environmental Health and Safety, 414 J.M. Smith Hall

	Equipment/ Task Name	Soldner Clay Mixer
	Departments Impacted	Art & Architecture Department
	Purpose	Soldner clay mixers are a fast and efficient way of mixing fresh clay from powder or reprocessing scrap clay into a useable consistency. There are no sharp blades or augers but rather the clay is pushed against the stationary mixing bars by a slowly rotating concrete tub.
TASK	HAZARDS	CONTROLS
1. Prior to operating a soldner clay mixer.	Slip, trip, and fall hazards.	Make sure the floor of the work area is free from materials, cords, equipment, and debris.
	Entanglement hazard.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the mixer is unplugged or turned off before scraping down the walls and mixing bars to remove clay residue from the mixer tub. • Visually inspect the mixer to see if the appropriate machine guards are in place. • Tie back hair and do not wear loose clothing.
2. Add clay mixer and water to the mixer.	Inhalation hazard.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear a dust mask or respirator to protect against clay and silica dust. • Make sure the exhaust ventilation system is on when pouring mixture. • Add water to the mixer tub before adding clay mix to minimize dust.
	Eye injury hazard.	Wear eye protection to prevent dust particles and splashes from entering into the eyes.
	Bodily injury hazard.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When opening the lid, make sure the lid hinges are operating properly before releasing grip. • Use safe lifting procedures when lifting bags of material to prevent back injuries. • Get assistance from another person or utilize mechanical aids when lifting heavy items. • Always wear closed toed shoes.
	Absorption and laceration hazards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear gloves to minimize absorption and laceration hazards. • Wear a rubber apron (if appropriate) to cut down on contact with chemicals.
	Slip hazards.	Clean up any spills immediately.



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	Machine damage.	Do not overload mixer. Start with $\frac{3}{4}$ amount of material and water. Add additional while mixing.	
3. Close lid and start mixer.	Entanglement hazard.	Stay clear of turning barrel.	
4. Add raw materials or water if needed.	Entanglement hazard.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep clear of turning barrel. Tie back hair and do not wear loose clothing. 	
	Inhalation hazard.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wear a dust mask or respirator to protect against clay and silica dust. Make sure the exhaust ventilation system is on when pouring mixture. 	
5. Turn off mixer and unload clay.	Entanglement hazard.	Make sure mixer is off before unloading clay.	
	Bodily injury.	Use safe lifting procedures while unloading.	
6. Clean out mixer and cleanup work area.	Entanglement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Never turn on mixer while cleaning it out. 	
	Slip, trip, and fall hazards.	Clean up any spills and make sure floor area is free from materials, cords, equipment, and debris.	
	Inhalation hazards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wear dust mask or respirator. Wet mop, hose down or vacuum (with a HEPA vacuum) all areas including floor surfaces to minimize dust. 	
Required Training:		Required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	
1. Soldner clay mixer training.		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Safety glasses Dust mask or respirator Gloves Rubber apron (if appropriate) 	
SOP ID	A012	Related Documents Art Shop Manual	Creation/Revision Date 11/2018

Suggestions, questions, or comments? Please contact EH&S