

## **Red Colored glaze Modern Style Vase**

### **Introduction of the Colored Glaze Porcelain**

As one of the four famous porcelains, high-temperature colored glaze porcelain, also known as an artificial gem, plays a crucial role in Jingdezhen's ceramic industry. The production of colored glaze porcelain in Jingdezhen is both time-honored and renowned worldwide. Over the past years, the colored glaze porcelain produced in Jingdezhen has been unmatched at home and abroad in terms of color, beauty, and quality.



## **The Story of Ji Hong**

Among the many tales associated with colored glaze porcelain, the story of Ji Hong is particularly captivating. During the Xuande period, a renowned ceramic craftsman named Tao Cheng was tasked with creating a set of bright red ceramics for the Emperor Xuan Zong's memorial ceremony. Despite numerous attempts, the craftsmen struggled to achieve the desired color, and as the deadline approached, failure seemed imminent. According to the tale, Tao Cheng's daughter, Ji Hong, sacrificed herself by jumping into the furnace, which miraculously resulted in the creation of a rare and beautiful bright red glaze. This glaze, later known as "Ji Hong," became one of the most precious and sought-after colors in porcelain making.



## **Manufacturing Procedures of Colored Glaze Porcelain**

The process of creating colored glaze porcelain is complex and requires meticulous attention to detail. The coloring mechanism of colored glaze involves several steps, each essential to achieving the final vibrant hues. Initially, the coloring agent is ground into a fine powder and mixed with glaze slip. This mixture, typically thicker than ordinary white glaze, is then applied to the porcelain using various techniques such as dipping, pouring, shaking, spraying, brushing, or a combination of these methods to achieve the desired artistic effect.

Firing is the most critical step in the process, determining the success or failure of the porcelain. The temperature must be carefully controlled, traditionally monitored by the kiln man's experienced eyes and hand-me-down skills. The temperature is gradually raised to about 1,050 degrees Celsius, maintained for half an hour in an oxidizing atmosphere, then increased to around 1,200 degrees Celsius in a strong reduction atmosphere. After reaching the highest firing temperature, it is kept constant for another half an hour before the fire is put out to cool.

This intricate process, combined with the rich history and legendary tales like that of Ji Hong, makes colored glaze porcelain a true masterpiece of Jingdezhen's ceramic artistry. Each piece is a testament to the skill, dedication, and cultural heritage that have been passed down through generations, ensuring that the beauty and quality of colored glaze porcelain remain unparalleled.

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