

DESIGN YOUR OWN GREEK VASE

Learn more about Greek Pottery and use our templates and sherds from our collection, to design your own vase!

Ancient Greeks decorated their pottery in rich complicated designs. The Museum of Classical Archaeology holds hundreds of pottery sherds (pieces). We have picked a few examples of the geometric style, which focuses on shapes and lines. We also threw in a few more complicated styles for fun.

You should know that the ideal in Greek pottery was to cover the entire surface of the vase with these decorations.

We hope that these sherds inspire you to create your own Greek Vase and to draw fanciful patterns on your pot using examples of pottery sherds from the museum.

Share your designs with us on social media!

ANCIENT GREEK GEOMETRIC POTTERY

This shard is a part of red figure krater from south Italy. Red Figure means all of the decoration was red. The swirly-leafy decoration is known as "lotus and palmette"



This shard is from Naucratis. It is a piece of the rim, the upper edge of the pot. The maze-like decoration is called a meander. Very common in pottery!

This almost complete pot from Corinth is decorated with a tongue pattern at the top, and a scale pattern on the main body. The scales were drawn with a compass.



ANCIENT GREEK GEOMETRIC POTTERY

This sherd is also from Naucratis, but black-figure. That means the colour used on top of the clay was black. This is a simpler meander and dot pattern.



This is another black figure rim piece. The pattern to us might seem like hearts. To the ancient potter it is vine leaves! Leaves and flowers were also a common way to fill in space.

This one is a special treat! It is a fragment of an East Greek Bird Bowl. It comes from Al Mina. Pottery was often decorated with animals too!

