ISO 6486 standard on food safety in ceramic ware

About the ISO 6486 standard

ISO 6486-1:2019 - Ceramic ware, glass ceramic ware and glass dinnerware in contact with food — Release of lead and cadmium — Part 1: Test method

This standard specifies a test method for the release of lead and cadmium from ceramic ware, glass ceramic ware and glass dinnerware intended to be used in contact with food, but excluding vitreous and porcelain enamel articles (covered by ISO 4531). It is applicable to ceramic ware, glass ceramic ware and glass dinnerware which is intended to be used for the preparation, cooking, serving and storage of food and beverages, excluding all articles used in food manufacturing industries or in which food is sold.

ISO 6486-2:1999 - Ceramic ware, glass-ceramic ware and glass dinnerware in contact with food — Release of lead and cadmium - Part 2: Permissible limits

This part of ISO 6486 specifies permissible limits for the release of lead and cadmium from ceramic ware, glassceramic ware and glass dinnerware intended to be used in contact with food, but excluding porcelain enamel articles. It is applicable to ceramic ware, glass-ceramic ware and glass dinnerware which is intended to be used for the preparation, cooking, serving and storage of food and beverages, excluding articles used in food manufacturing industries or those in which food is sold.

Application and validity

When applicable, tests for SIO-2® clays have been done in pieces made in our lab (see example for Onyx Black Porcelain clay below). Therefore, the corresponding ISO 6486 certificate is informative only and does not extend to the work made by other potters even though it is made with the same SIO-2® clay. This is because there may be other factors that influence the test, such as firing temperature of the pieces, porosity, if they are glazed or not, possible presence of other substances, etc. In other words, although a SIO-2® clay is certified according to ISO 6486, health authorities could ask each potter for their own certificate for the ceramic ware they produce.



Onyx Black Porcelain vessels for ISO 6486 test



