

Quick Guide To Potter's Ribs

Common Shapes



Bowl

Shape Smooth, Consistent Curves.
Use On The Inside or Outside of Bowls



Platter

Create Large, Flat Surfaces. Especially Useful For Throwing Plates & Platters



Kidney

Most Common Rib Shape.
Smooth Curves, Flat Bottom



Texture

Add Surface Depth Plus Creates Places For Glaze Pooling



Profile

Functions Like A Template For Consistent Pieces

Mastering Flexibility

Rib choice often comes down to preference developed through trial & practice.

A good place to start is with 5 or 6 ribs in a variety of materials, shapes, and flexes to be ready for every stage of making.



Rigid

Ideal for compressing, forming larger pieces, & scraping.

Firm

Medium

Most versatile. Ideal for all purpose shaping.

Soft

Softest

Ideal for smoothing, removing imperfections, & burnishing.

Material:

Silicone

- Varying flexibility available
- Resists warping
- Comfortable
- Excellent for All Around Shaping & Compressing.



Pictured: Mudtools Shape 2

Material:

Wood

- Rigid & Lightweight
- Natural Feel
- Environmentally Friendly
- Large Variety of Profiles, Textures, & Shapes.



Pictured: Garrity Tools Travel Mug Tool

Material:

Metal

- Rigid & Flexible Options
- Most Durable & Longest Lasting
- Usually Made of Stainless Steel or Aluminum



Pictured: Xiem Rim Rib

Material:

Plastic

- Lightweight
- Cost Effective
- Easy To Clean
- Durable



Pictured: Speedball Boss Ribs



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