

Week 1 We know how to compare artists, architects and designers and identify significant characteristics of the same style of artwork, structures and products through time.

Look at the images of Greek plates, pots and patterns. Make sketches of scenes and patterns and draw or paint a scene in ancient Greek style for a vase or plate.

Ancient Greek pottery

Pottery was very important in ancient Greek society and it came in all shapes and sizes. There were many different designs and each had its own use.

Some were used for storing and pouring liquids, while others were used for drinking.

Many pieces of pottery have survived for thousands of years. Archaeologists have studied the pictures on them to find out about ancient Greece.

Some types of pottery show scenes from everyday life, while others feature scenes from Greek myths and legends.



A krater was used to mix water with wine.



A volute krater had curved handles.



A hydria was used to carry water.



An amphora was used to store liquids and solids.



A kylix was a shallow drinking cup.



A kantharos was a drinking cup with tall handles.



A skyphos was a cup used to drink wine.



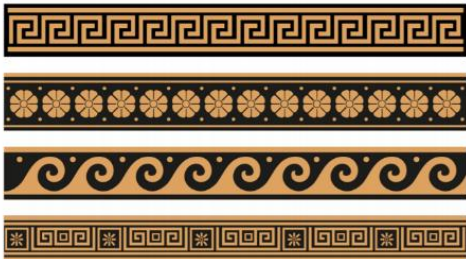
A lekane was a bowl with a lid, used for storing jewellery, trinkets and cosmetics.

Meander

Some pottery features a patterned border called a meander.

The pattern continues in a straight line and the design is repeated.

A very well-known meander is called a Greek key.



Scenes

Some pottery features scenes from everyday life or Greek myths and legends. This scene shows the death of Achilles, in which you can see Ajax carrying Achilles from the Trojan battlefield. A woman leads the way, and two armed warriors follow behind.



Black-figure painting

In black-figure painting, the people and patterns are black, while the background is the colour of the clay.

The artists created the images using a special clay, which turned black when the pot was fired.

They carved out details and sometimes used red and white paint to add more detail.



Red-figure painting

In red-figure painting, the images and patterns are red, and the background is black.

This technique gradually replaced black-figure painting because artists could add more precise details using paintbrushes.

