

Are you thinking of holding a pottery party but want to know more? This is the page for you! Here are frank answers to the 10 most common questions about SPLAT pottery painting and pottery parties.

1. How old do my children need to be?

we find girls and (surprisingly, to some people) boys up to about 12 or 13 love pottery painting. Although very young children enjoy it too, we have found that they usually lack the concentration necessary to make the most of the experience and we would not recommend a party for children under six years old. The 'perfect' age is from about six to ten years old.

2. What items should I choose?

For parties, we suggest a choice of items from our PARTY range of products. They are all the same price and of similar (though not identical) size. They should take 45-60 minutes to paint which is perfect for a 2 hour party. Alternatively our party packs are competitively priced and include everything you'll need. Our butterfly party pack is a good choice if you have mainly girls with one or two boys, and our Dolphin Jewellery Box Party Pack is our best selling girls' item. Project pottery is larger and takes 1-3 hours to paint. It is ideal for older children and adults, but is more suited to an afternoon or evening's painting rather than a party. To help with party harmony, we recommend that you select the same item for each boy and each girl or (if absolutely necessary) circulate the details and ask each child what they want to paint.

3. I'll be doing the party myself - is it hand?

Absolutely not. Compared with bringing up children, mums can run a reasonably sized pottery party with their eyes closed and both hands tied behind their back! Nor do you need to be a budding Picasso or qualified teacher. Most people find the party turns out to be a quite relaxing time. For your peace of mind we also include our pottery painting guide and our pottery party guide which includes hints and tips for a successfully party.

4. How long should I allow for my party?

Pottery painting parties are best set at around two hours. This will allow around 60 minutes of actual painting.

5. Can the pottery be taken straight home?

Absolutely! Children like things to be instant and that's what we give them! The professional quality acrylic paint is touch dry in just a minute or two, enabling colours to be changed almost immediately and gives a fantastic memento to be taken straight home.... no expensive party bags to worry about!

7. How many children should I invite?

Six to eight children is the perfect number for a pottery party. If you are planning more than eight, consider the limiting factor of space around the table (you could hire a hall or have the party in the garden if need be) and for more than eight children you might want to get getting a helping hand from a friend ... or even a husband :-)

8. Will my house will end up a mess!

No. Pottery parties are not free-for-all painting sessions, but instead done with a small amount of acrylic paint taken from a palette. Whilst it is sensible to cover the painting table and wipe up small spillages straight away the chances of a big accident are low. Also acrylic paint is water soluble and for your peace of mind, simple tips on minimising the risk of accidents are included with your order.

9. If I use an organiser, what will they do?

Our organisers are enthusiastic and love working with children. They prepare the painting area, assist the children with colour schemes, painting methods and clear up the area when the painting's finished. They all work under a fair-terms letter that outlines the responsibilities of the host and the organiser. You may see this letter at the bottom of the Parties page on the website.

10. Is there an organiser near me, and how much will it cost?

Please see the Parties page on our website for details of our current organisers. The price will be dependent on the number of children, length of party and travelling time. Prices start at around £35 plus the cost of the party pack.