

# Ho'takachee'wak'kwa

## STORAGE OR COOKING POT

The first Fort Ancient pots were jars, wide-mouthed cylindrical containers. By the fifteenth century, people also created small bowls, large shallow platters, and jars with round bases and flared rims. Potters often decorated jars with designs around the neck of the vessel. These watertight containers had many functions.

Cord-marked Fort Ancient Vessel  
Courtesy Ohio History Connection  
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Globular Fort Ancient jar  
Courtesy the Ohio History Connection  
AL07074

Clay pots were storage containers. They held seeds (mi'kana) for next year's planting. Farmers carefully selected and stored the best seeds from their harvests, to ensure they could plant crops the following spring. Their knowledge of pollination, harvesting, and seed storage was essential and passed down through families.

Pots were also used to cook and process food. They may have melted animal fat to make oil (peme), mixed pigments (peye'sepeyea'hikana) or prepared medicines (ho'chepkalee).