

## Vitrification | Ceramic teacup

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# 1. Geographic Area

This activity is done in Andalucía, specifically in Málaga. Málaga is a big city with a lot of little villages.

Then, the craftsmanship is located in the mountain's towns such as Antequera, Frigiliana...



## 2. Craft Characteristics

In Málaga there is a town called Mijas. Here, ceramic tea cup are produced every day using processes and a technique. The reason why it's produced specially in Mijas is because the amount of galleries and wells where they extract the materials. Usually people who work in this job is because their family's job was this, and is like a “tradition” to work at the same job as your relatives.



### 3. The Technique

The technique used is the vitrification.

It consists of putting the material (in this case for example porcelain) and raising it to high temperatures in big tubes, to be able to treat the material better. Once this vitrification technique has been completed, it's more easier to continue working and also to apply in the different processes.



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The main processes are: - Glazing



Develop compositions and forms at an advanced level.

- Decoration

Sculptors and painters design an artistic drawing and give it color

- Firing



Passage of the "raw" product to vitrified product and ready for sale. It is also glazed for more consistence.



## 4. Used Materials

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Ceramic tea cup is very precious because the materials, they are mainly kaolinite, feldspar, clay in granules, crystal, porcelain...

The material for do it it's not cheap, because the extraction of materials and the technique and processes that have to been realised aren't easy. When all the processes have been done, almost all the ceramic tea cups are decorated with different designs like mandalas, historical events ...



## 5. History

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Since the 17th Century ceramic tea cups are famous because their characteristics and history.

In Andalucia this craftsman's activity is so recognized because of the meaning, since the 1600 more or less, the designs that craftsmen did were inspired in the feelings of that years.

The designs of the teacups were of the topics such as the society (kings, slaves, nobility...) and then since 1600 this activity is still in process with designs of the actuality too.

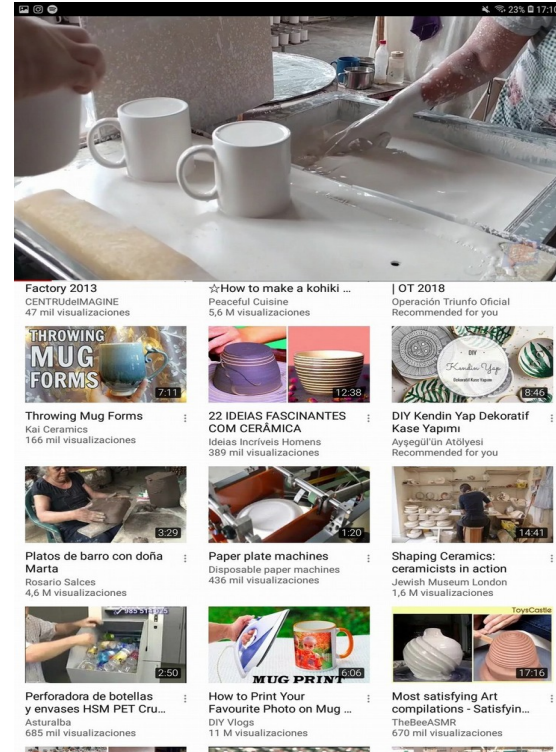




## 6. YouTube Videos

Here we can see a video about the  
process of the ceramic teacup:

<https://youtu.be/pYw5zUyiS7M>



## 7. Gallery

In this new we can see that the spanish people use the teacup everyday and we have to choose the perfect one for them. The most famous is the porcelain cup in Mijas:



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And here some photos of teacup with different designs:

