

JumpinGoat Coffee Roasters

## **USING A HANDMADE CERAMIC GOAT TEAPOT**

Once you have purchased a unique and individual Goat Teapot you need to know how to use it... (This is assuming that you aren't just going to put it up on a shelf and look at it with ownership pride.)

**The most important thing to keep firmly in mind** is that you **HAVE NOT** purchased Corning ware. Corning ware is a totally different product and wonderful in its own way, but not at all like the real Goat pottery teapot. The use of the pottery in times past was well understood and, in some ways, simpler.

For one thing, most people had wood cook stoves and the top had many ranges of heat. While the water you were bringing almost to a boil for your tea was heating in another vessel (probably metal) you were 'warming' your teapot on another, cooler section of the stove. By the time the water was at the right temperature you teapot was warmed enough so that pouring the near boiling water into it did not cause thermal shock and crack the pot. Once the tea and water were combined in the pottery teapot, you put the cozy over it and let it steep. Then you had your tea served in this great looking pot.

In these days of electric and gas stoves the 'warmer section' no longer exists. Therefore, while you are heating your water (probably in a Corning product) you need to warm your teapot in some other fashion. The simplest is probably to warm your goat teapot by filling it with hot water out of the tap. Make sure that the sides of the teapot are warm before pouring the near boiling water into it. Then you can enjoy your tea in the traditional manner.

On this theme it should be mentioned that any pottery vessel should be treated with the same degree of respect for thermal shock. The wider the bottom of the vessel the easier it is to crack due to improper handling. If you are using a pottery casserole, put it in a cold oven and then turn on the heat. When you are handling hot pottery ware do not place it on a cold metal or stone surface but on wood or cloth. If you keep in mind the bane of sudden and extreme temperature change your pottery vessel should have a long and functional life.

We hope you enjoy your custom crafted teapot!

A Fresh Day Is Brewing!