



Statement Regarding Lead and Cadmium in Fiesta Tableware

Since 1986, when Fiesta® dinnerware was reintroduced, the entire Fiesta® product line has been manufactured without the use of raw materials that were purchased for their lead content. So, for the past 36 years, The Fiesta Tableware Company has been manufacturing Fiesta® products without lead. There are no pallets or bags of leaded material on site that could be mixed into the current production.

The Fiesta Tableware Company proclaims that the Fiesta® products made since 1986 are lead safe. Lead safe must be defined and here is our definition of lead safe. A California Proposition 65 settlement between Russel Brimer and the Boelter Companies¹ states: "No Detectable lead" shall mean that lead is not detected above two one-hundredths of one percent (0.02%, 200 ppm²) by weight percent. All raw materials used by The Fiesta Tableware Company meet this requirement.

The Fiesta Tableware Company must abide by the regulations of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and California Proposition 65 regarding lead and cadmium leaching. Ware is sent to outside independent laboratories for testing according to ASTM³ C738-94 Standard Test Method for Lead and Cadmium Extracted from Glazed Ceramic Surfaces. This is the only authorized test method. While the existence of lead and cadmium can be detected using X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF), it is not an approved test method for determining the leachability of lead and cadmium.

Lead

The FDA allows a leachability limit of:

- 0.50 ppm for cups, mugs, and pitchers with >1.1-liter capacity
- 1.0 ppm for large hollowware (>1.1-liter capacity)
- 2.0 ppm for small hollowware (<1.1-liter capacity)
- 3.0 ppm for flatware (depth <25mm)

California Proposition 65 allows a leachability limit of:

- 0.100 ppm for cups, mugs, and pitchers with >1.1-liter capacity
- 0.100 ppm for large hollowware (>1.1-liter capacity)
- 0.100 ppm for small hollowware (<1.1-liter capacity)
- 0.226 ppm for flatware (depth <25mm)

The Fiesta® products made by The Fiesta Tableware Company exhibit lead leachability of less than 0.002 ppm for all Fiesta® colors.

The Fiesta Tableware company freely admits that there are trace amounts of lead in the raw materials that we purchase. We are not purchasing the raw materials for the lead content. Should any ceramic dinner ware company state that they are 100% lead free they are being dishonest. We purchase the

¹ Brimer v. Boelter, *et al.*, San Francisco Supreme Court, Case No. CGC-05-440811

² PPM - Parts per Million

³ ASTM – American Society for Testing and Materials



same raw materials that they would have purchased and outside analysis by independent laboratories for The Fiesta Tableware Company has always indicated trace amounts of lead.

The Fiesta Tableware Company does purchase raw materials for their cadmium content, and we freely admit that we use encapsulated cadmium containing pigments in some of our Fiesta® products. As with lead, we are required by the FDA and California Proposition 65 to test for cadmium leachability.

Cadmium

The FDA allows a leachability limit of:

- 0.50 ppm for cups, mugs, and pitchers with >1.1-liter capacity
- 0.25 ppm for large hollowware (>1.1-liter capacity)
- 0.50 ppm for small hollowware (<1.1-liter capacity)
- 0.50 ppm for flatware (depth <25mm)

California Proposition 65 allows a leachability limit of:

- 0.189 ppm for cups, mugs
- 0.049 ppm for pitchers with >1.1-liter capacity
- 0.049 ppm for large hollowware (>1.1-liter capacity)
- 0.189 ppm for small hollowware (<1.1-liter capacity)
- 3.164 ppm for flatware (depth <25mm)

The analysis performed by outside independent laboratories on Fiesta® products states less than 0.02ppm of leachable cadmium. It is not illegal under state or federal law to use cadmium in the production of ceramic dinner ware.

The Fiesta Tableware Company is in full compliance with the leachability requirement of the FDA and California Proposition 65 for lead and cadmium.

Regarding children's ceramic dinner ware, The Fiesta Tableware Company (formerly The Homer Laughlin China Company) stopped designing, producing, marketing, advertising, and selling children's products in 2008 to be in full compliance with the 2008 Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act.