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Helpful Tips For Thermocouple Placement

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It is important to be mindful of your thermocouple placement during a firing. A properly placed thermocouple can make a big difference in accurate temperature readings. Follow these few tips for proper thermocouple placement in your kiln:

- Make sure the thermocouple sticks into the kiln far enough. It should stick approximately 1" to 1 1/2" into the firing chamber
- Be sure that ware and shelves are not touching the thermocouple. Allow at least an inch of space around the thermocouple
- Be mindful that the kiln is not too close or touching an element
- When using only one thermocouple, it is best to place the thermocouple close to the level to which the ware is being fired

It's also important to remember that a thermocouple is a component that will wear out over time. If your thermocouple reading is above or below the actual temperature, it may be time for a new thermocouple. It's a good idea to keep a spare thermocouple on hand in the event that one quits working. A spare Type K thermocouple is an inexpensive part that could save you a big headache later. You can also use your controller to set a thermocouple offset so the controller will make up for the misreading in temperature. Check back next time for more helpful tips!

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