

WHEELS

Selecting Your New Potter's Wheel

Marjon Ceramics offers only potter's wheels with strong reputations for quality and value. The comparison chart on the next page is designed to illustrate similarities and differences in some of the wheels offered in this section. The information presented is that which is most often sought by potters interested in purchasing a new wheel, with the three most important variables in the selection process being: power, durability and comfort.

Power: Perhaps the most confusing factor in making a wheel selection is in evaluating power. Many people ask "What is the horsepower?" Horsepower can be important or very unimportant. In an A/C powered wheel the horsepower is certainly no more important than the type of drive and subsequently how that drive converts the electric horsepower to usable power. In a D/C powered wheel, the horsepower rating is even less important compared to the wheel's electronic controls, and the constant power created by those controls. **The easiest way to evaluate a wheel's power for your specific needs is to focus on the centering capacity. Does the manufacturer's stated centering capacity meet your maximum anticipated throwing requirements? Keep in mind that very few potters ever center more than 25 lbs. at a time.**

Durability: A quality wheel is built to last for many years. Important features include a stable, solid base (many are of steel construction), and a durable and easily cleaned surface. If possible, examine the wheel prior to purchasing, "kick the tires." Does it look and feel like a "friend" you can count on for the long haul?

Comfort: If you are comfortable, you are in control of your project. You will spend many hours sitting at your wheel, so consider height, seat and the pedal sensitivity. As far as height is concerned, consider whether the legs are adjustable or whether adjustable leg extensions are available. Nothing is more important to comfort and the ability to spend hours at a time at your wheel than a good seat. Several manufacturers offer seats which differ significantly in style; try them out for comfort, support and durability. Nobody knows better than you what seat is right for you. Finally, the foot pedal on your wheel is critical. Is it comfortable and responsive; does it provide constant power; is it adjustable within your desired range of speed?

Wheel Integrity: Accessory items can add convenience to your throwing, but don't trade "bells and whistles" for the proven reliability of a quality potter's wheel. The best wheels incorporate the highest quality components - motor, electronics, pedal sensors; even drive belts are critical to the reliability of your wheel. The proven wheels on the market are fundamentally sound. Their reputations are built on durability, value, warranty protection and, ultimately, customer satisfaction.


Underwriter's Laboratory (UL) Approval: For decades, customers did not demand UL listed wheels and manufacturers did not spend the time and money securing UL approval. As consumers have become more safety and quality conscious, the UL Mark has grown in importance. If UL approval is important to you, check the following chart or ask our Order Department about UL status when you place your wheel order.

Warranty Protection: As with most consumer products, the warranty is as good as the manufacturer or dealer behind it. All wheels sold by Laguna are backed by quality manufacturers. The wheel comparison chart in this section will answer many of your questions, but if you are unable to test a wheel firsthand, consider purchasing a wheel with a "satisfaction guarantee" that allows you to return the wheel "for any reason" if it does not meet your expectations.

Equipment Repairs and Custom Design

Marjon's Shop is available to fix or replace parts for your wheel, pugmill, kiln or any other machinery or equipment. Does the manufacturer tell you that the part is obsolete or that you have to purchase a whole component instead of just the one damaged or worn-out part? Before you "break the bank" on such repairs, contact our machine shop for a quote that might save you hundreds of dollars. We build ceramic equipment all day long. We'd be glad to work on yours too.

POTTER'S WHEEL COMPARISON CHART

MODEL	MOTOR	DRIVE SYSTEM	CENTERING CAPACITY	SPEED CONTROL	WHEEL HEAD	SPLASH GUARD	FEATURES	OPTIONS	WARRANTY	RETAIL PRICE ¹
 PACIFICA GT400	DC PERMANENT MAGNET	4 INDEPENDENT POLYURETHANE DRIVE BELTS	UP TO 80 LBS	"MAGIC" FOOT PEDAL NO MOVING PARTS 0-300 RPM	13" DIA. DIE CAST MACHINED ALUMINUM 10" BAT PIN CENTERS PINS INCLUDED	INCLUDED	MAGIC PEDAL QUIET & SMOOTH LARGE WORK TABLE UPS SHIPPABLE STEEL FRAME CONSTRUCTION REVERSING SWITCH	PADDED SEAT ADJUSTABLE LEG EXTENSION "A" 10" ADDED HEIGHT LEG EXTENSION "B" 23" ADDED HEIGHT	2 YEAR LIMITED 30 DAY TOTAL SATISFACTION GUARANTEE	\$895.00
 PACIFICA GT800	DC PERMANENT MAGNET	4 INDEPENDENT POLYURETHANE DRIVE BELTS	100 LBS +	"MAGIC" FOOT PEDAL NO MOVING PARTS 0-300 RPM	13" DIA. DIE CAST MACHINED ALUMINUM 10" BAT PIN CENTERS PINS INCLUDED	INCLUDED	MAGIC PEDAL QUIET & SMOOTH LARGE WORK TABLE UPS SHIPPABLE STEEL FRAME CONSTRUCTION REVERSING SWITCH	PADDED SEAT ADJUSTABLE LEG EXTENSION "A" 10" ADDED HEIGHT LEG EXTENSION "B" 23" ADDED HEIGHT	2 YEAR LIMITED 30 DAY TOTAL SATISFACTION GUARANTEE	\$1,015.00
BRENT MODEL A	DC PERMANENT MAGNET	POLY-V BELT	N/A	FOOT PEDAL SLIDE POTENTIOMETER 0-240 RPM	12" DIA. CAST ALUMINUM 10" BAT PIN CENTERS PINS INCLUDED	OPTIONAL	SMALL WHEEL FOR HOBBYIST DURABLE STEEL FRAME UPS SHIPPABLE	SPLASH PAN	2 YEAR LIMITED	\$940.00
BRENT MODEL B	DC PERMANENT MAGNET	POLY-V BELT	25 LBS.	FOOT PEDAL SLIDE POTENTIOMETER 0-240 RPM	12" DIA. CAST ALUMINUM 10" BAT PIN CENTERS PINS INCLUDED	INCLUDED	MODEL C DRIVE SYSTEM SPLASH PAN INCLUDED ALL STEEL CONSTRUCTION	LEG EXTENSION KIT PLATFORM SEAT REVERSING SWITCH	2 YEAR LIMITED	\$1,040.00
BRENT MODEL C	DC PERMANENT MAGNET	POLY-V BELT	50 LBS.	FOOT PEDAL SLIDE POTENTIOMETER 0-240 RPM	14" DIA. CAST & MACHINED ALUMINUM 10" BAT PIN CENTERS PINS INCLUDED	OPTIONAL	ELECTRONIC SPEED CONTROL ALL STEEL CONSTRUCTION	LEG EXTENSION KIT PLATFORM SEAT REVERSING SWITCH SPLASH PAN	2 YEAR LIMITED	\$1,130.00
BRENT MODEL CXC	DC PERMANENT MAGNET	POLY-V BELT	UP TO 100 LBS.	FOOT PEDAL SLIDE POTENTIOMETER 0-240 RPM	14" DIA. CAST & MACHINED ALUMINUM 10" BAT PIN CENTERS PINS INCLUDED	OPTIONAL	ELECTRONIC SPEED CONTROL REVERSING SWITCH ALL STEEL CONSTRUCTION	LEG EXTENSION KIT PLATFORM SEAT SPLASH PAN	2 YEAR LIMITED	\$1,340.00
CREATIVE INDUSTRIES MODEL JR	DC PERMANENT MAGNET	POLY-V BELT	25 LBS.	FOOT PEDAL RACK & PINION POTENTIOMETER	14" INJECTION MOLDED PLASTIC - OVER STEEL PLATE 10" BAT PIN CENTERS PINS INCLUDED	INCLUDED	ALL PLASTIC CONSTRUCTION ELECTRONIC CONTROL DRAIN SUMP & PLUG	REVERSING SWITCH STOOLS WORK STATION ACC. SPLASH PAN	5 YEAR PARTS & LABOR	\$890.00
CREATIVE INDUSTRIES MODEL MP	DC PERMANENT MAGNET	POLY-V BELT	50 LBS.	FOOT PEDAL RACK & PINION POTENTIOMETER	14" INJECTION MOLDED PLASTIC - OVER STEEL PLATE 10" BAT PIN CENTERS PINS INCLUDED	INCLUDED	ALL PLASTIC CONSTRUCTION ELECTRONIC CONTROL DRAIN SUMP & PLUG	REVERSING SWITCH STOOLS WORK STATION ACC. SPLASH PAN	5 YEAR PARTS & LABOR	\$1,025.00
CREATIVE INDUSTRIES MODEL HP	DC PERMANENT MAGNET	POLY-V BELT	UNLIMITED ¹	FOOT PEDAL RACK & PINION POTENTIOMETER	14" INJECTION MOLDED PLASTIC - OVER STEEL PLATE 10" BAT PIN CENTERS PINS INCLUDED	INCLUDED	ALL PLASTIC CONSTRUCTION ELECTRONIC CONTROL DRAIN SUMP & PLUG	REVERSING SWITCH STOOLS WORK STATION ACC.	5 YEAR PARTS & LABOR	\$1,159.00
CREATIVE INDUSTRIES CLAY BOSS	DC PERMANENT MAGNET	POLY-V BELT	15 LBS.	FOOT PEDAL RACK & PINION POTENTIOMETER	14" INJECTION MOLDED PLASTIC - OVER STEEL PLATE 10" BAT PIN CENTERS PINS INCLUDED	INCLUDED	ALL STEEL CONSTRUCTION POWDER COATED ELECTRONIC CONTROL 220V NOT AVAILABLE	REVERSING SWITCH STOOLS WORK STATION ACC. SPLASH PAN	2 YEARS LIMITED	\$569.00
SHIMPO RK-10 BASIC	AC 250W 115V SINGLE PHASE	METALLIC TRACTION DRIVE (RING-MULTIPLE CONE DRIVE)	50 LBS. +	FIXED PEDAL & LEVER CONTROL 0-250 RPM	12" DIA. ALUMINUM 10" BAT PIN CENTERS PINS INCLUDED	OPTIONAL	REVERSING SWITCH FULLY ENCLOSED BASE	BALL MILL RACK JIGGERING UNIT TABLE	2 YEAR LIMITED	\$920.00
SHIMPO RK-10 SUPER	AC 200W 115V SINGLE PHASE	METALLIC TRACTION DRIVE (RING-MULTIPLE CONE DRIVE)	50 LBS. +	FIXED PEDAL & LEVER CONTROL 0-250 RPM	12" DIA. ALUMINUM 10" BAT PIN CENTERS PINS INCLUDED	OPTIONAL	REVERSING SWITCH FULLY ENCLOSED BASE	BALL MILL RACK JIGGERING UNIT TABLE	2 YEAR LIMITED	\$998.00
SHIMPO M400	DC PERMANENT MAGNET	POLY-V BELT	50 LBS. +	REMOTE FOOT PEDAL POTENTIOMETER 0-250 RPM	14" DIA. ALUMINUM 10" BAT PIN CENTERS PINS INCLUDED	OPTIONAL	FULLY ENCLOSED BASE	BALL MILL RACK JIGGERING UNIT TABLE	2 YEAR LIMITED	\$980.00
SHIMPO M750	DC PERMANENT MAGNET	POLY-V BELT	100 LBS. +	REMOTE FOOT PEDAL POTENTIOMETER 0-250 RPM	14" DIA. ALUMINUM 10" BAT PIN CENTERS PINS INCLUDED	OPTIONAL	FULLY ENCLOSED BASE	BALL MILL RACK JIGGERING UNIT TABLE	2 YEAR LIMITED	\$1,120.00
SHIMPO MINI-MASTER	DC 250W 115V PERMANENT MAGNET	POLY-V BELT	25 LBS. +	REMOTE FOOT PEDAL POTENTIOMETER 0-250 RPM	14" DIA. ALUMINUM 10" BAT PIN CENTERS PINS INCLUDED	OPTIONAL	FULLY ENCLOSED BASE	BALL MILL RACK JIGGERING UNIT TABLE	2 YEAR LIMITED	\$750.00

¹ - Capacity shown by manufacturer as "unlimited".

All information represented on this chart was taken from the individual manufacturer's advertising material. Although the information is believed to be accurate, we cannot guarantee its accuracy. All wheels available in 220 or 240 (50 cycle) Euro-wiring on request.