

To estimate the firing cost of an Electric Kiln you need the following information (Amps and Volts should be on the nameplate on the kiln):

A = Amps

V = Volts (if 220 or 240 volts, use 230)

**F** = Firing time (multiplied by 0.6 since the kiln is only on full power for part of the firing)

C = Cost per Kilowatt-hour (which you can find on your electricity bill)

$$\frac{A \times V}{1000} \times F \times 0.6 \times C = Firing Cost$$

Example: A 47Amp Kiln, 240V, 12 hour firing time, \$0.25 per Kilowatt-hour

$$\frac{47 \times 230}{1000} \times 12 \times 0.6 \times 0.25 = \$19.46$$

A longer firing will increase the energy cost, it will not be a large increase because the kiln will not be on full power any longer and the 0.6 factor in "F" of the formula. The formula assumes a normal, even increase 8 hour firing. Greater accuracy can be achieved by following the same procedure for multiple smaller timing segments.

A three hour drying on the lowest setting (the first 5-6 hours) might use a factor of 0.1 in calculating "F" and then 0.6 for the remaining time. The cost for that firing would then be \$1.62 for the first 6 hours and \$9.73 for last 6 hours giving a total estimate of \$11.35 for the firing.

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