

# Types of Greek ceramic pieces



## Kylix

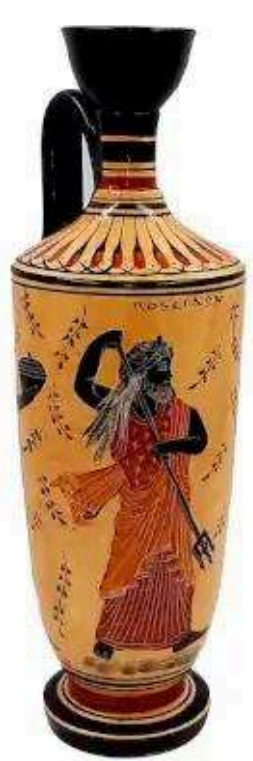
It was a type of glass used mainly for drinking wine at ceremonies and celebrations. Its characteristic design included a rounded base, thin stem, a wide and shallow body, and handles for easy handling.

Kylix were often decorated with scenes from Greek mythology, daily life or festive activities, it was an especially famous type of cup during the 5th and 4th centuries BC.

## Krater

They were also used to mix wine with water. They had a wide body and a solid base, usually complemented by a wide mouth. Their handles could be horizontal, near the base, or vertical, ascending from the shoulders of the vessel. This shape allowed efficient mixing of the two liquids.

They were usually placed in the center of the room, showing their importance in the act of sharing and socializing. Their considerable size meant that they were not easy to move once filled, so the wine was extracted and served in smaller glasses for the guests.



## Lekythos

The Lécito was an ancient Greek vessel used primarily for storing oil, especially olive oil.

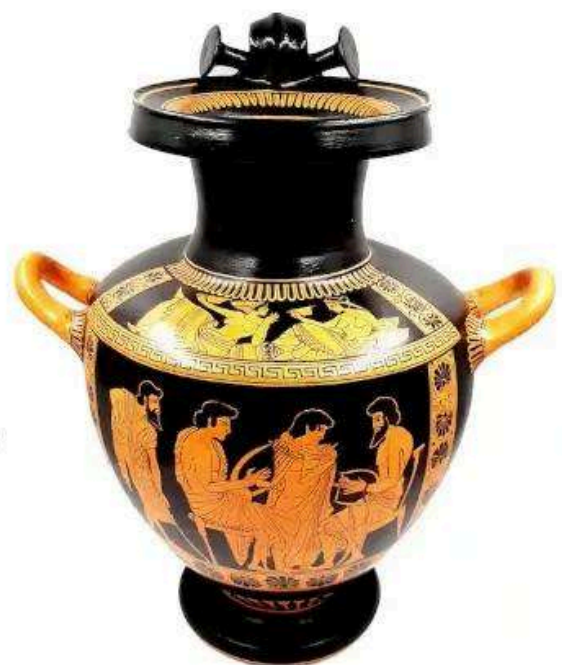
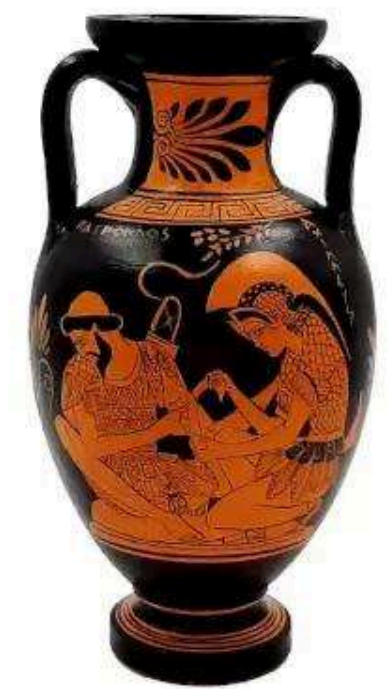
Its distinctive shape consists of a narrow, elongated body that widens gently towards the base, with a narrow neck to which a single handle is attached from the mouth to the middle of the body.

It has no lip for pouring. It has vertical sides at the top of the body that then abruptly change direction as the neck curves inward, and both the base and mouth are usually prominent and flared.

## Amphora

The amphora was an ancient storage vessel with two vertical handles and a neck narrower than the body. There were two main types: the neck amphora, where the neck joins the body at an acute angle, and the one-piece amphora, where the neck and body form a continuous curve.

Used from the Geometric period to Roman times, amphorae were used to store and transport products such as olives, cereals, oil and wine. Larger variants were used for funerary purposes and as grave markers.



## Hydria

The hydria was a water vessel very characteristic of ancient Greek pottery, notable for its three handles: two horizontal ones on the sides to lift it and a vertical one on the neck or shoulder for dipping and pouring. They used to measure about 45 cm in height to be able to hold enough water while still having a manageable weight once filled.

This design was common in both black-figured styles and red-figured pottery of the Archaic and Classical periods.

Hydrias were primarily used to collect and store water, but also appear in funerary and ritual contexts.

## Oenochoe

It was a classical Greek wine jug, characterized by a curved handle and a clover-shaped mouth. This type of jug was mainly used for serving wine in various ceremonies and everyday activities.

Its unique design facilitated the pouring of wine in a controlled manner. During the Renaissance and again in the Neoclassical period of the 18th century, the enocoe design was revived, highlighting its enduring aesthetic and functional appeal.



## Pyxis

They were globular shaped vessels, especially in the protogeometric period, evolving to have flat and wide bases during the later geometric period.

They were used to contain cosmetics, jewelry or even medicines.

Mostly made of ceramic, they could also be made of wood, bronze, ivory, marble, silver or stone.

## Skyphos

It was a type of wine glass that had a certain depth, it was characterized by two handles and a low base with or without a rim. The handles could be horizontal, in the shape of an ear, or vertical, separated from the body of the glass. Both types of handles could even be included in the same piece.

Although they were for social and ceremonial use, they were also used in everyday life in the homes of ancient Greece.



## Works of Ancient Greek Ceramics

