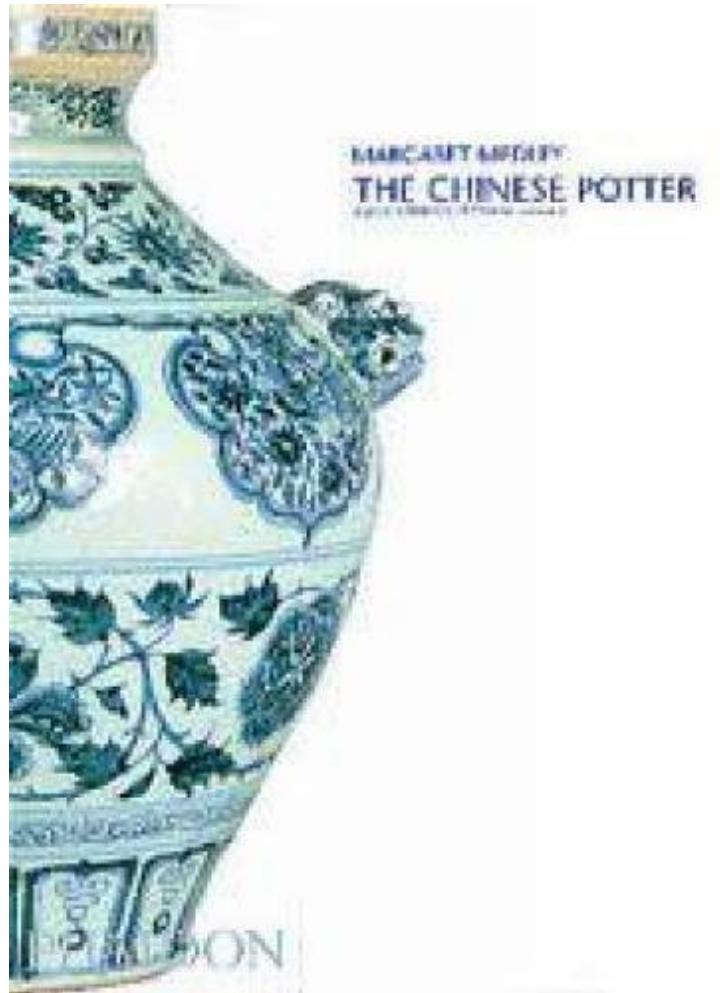


# The Chinese Potter: A Practical History of Chinese Ceramics

*Margaret Medley*

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**Margaret Medley : The Chinese Potter: A Practical History of Chinese Ceramics** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Chinese Potter: A Practical History of Chinese Ceramics:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Older but still excellent review of the history of Chinese pottery. By gerald stulc, mdMs. Medley was the doyen of Asian ceramics, faculty at the University of London School of Asian Studies. Though the book was written several decades ago, and is a bit out of date on certain topics, using older spellings, it is a treasure. Medley writes with authority, yet her prose is very readable. It is a perfect introduction to those who have some knowledge of Asian history and ceramics and wish to learn more without tackling an academic treatise. I especially appreciate that, in comparison to some scholars who write solely from an academic viewpoint, Ms. Medley obviously had hands-on experience with pottery making. She makes comments and conclusions only as

one who has actually thrown "green" clay can derive. Her narrative is in chronological order, and explains the evolution of pottery, kilns and porcelain in the context of Chinese cultural history. The book truly is a "practical history" meant for the interested lay person. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A fairly good review of Chinese pottery. By Amy Capella This is a scholarly review of Chinese pottery. It is fairly well done and my wife found it helpful since she is interested in Chinese antiques. 1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Comprehensive, but By Gary LLI was a little disappointed. I was primarily interested in ching tradeware, but not much on that and no pictures. Also the pictures were all high end/best of. not really usefull for a low end collector like myself. Also more pictures would have been nice to more fully cover styles and types of pieces. Text is well written and seems complete. But I have only started.

China has the longest and most highly developed ceramic tradition in the world, encompassing early Neolithic earthenwares, the finely glazed stoneware pieces of the Song period, and the years of Imperial patronage and export ware for the new markets of the West.

"A brilliant synthesis of a complex field of studies...it displays a wonderful mastery of the subject." -The Times "The Chinese Potter remains the best introduction to Chinese ceramics for students and collectors alike. It is one of those rare scholarly publications which is not only well-ordered and concise, but also very readable." -Rosemary Scott, Christie's From the Publisher China has the longest and most highly developed ceramic tradition in the world, encompassing early Neolithic earthenwares, the finely glazed stoneware pieces of the Song period, and the years of Imperial patronage and export ware for the new markets of the West. Most studies of Chinese art deal with types, period or styles, but this historical examination of Chinese ceramics, which uses recent research, explains how the evolution of pottery depended upon the technological developments of the Chinese culture. The book's practical approach makes full use of archaeological reports to show how differing geographical areas, materials and developing technology all shaped the evolution of Chinese ceramics. About the Author Margaret Medley was formerly Curator of the Percival David Foundation of Chinese Art, the University of London, and a distinguished authority on Chinese ceramics.