

# WHITEBIRK SINK COMPANY

LUXURY HANDMADE KITCHEN SINKS

OUR CRAFTSMEN HOLD A PARTICULARLY DEEP Rooted Passion for their craft. For Many of Them, it's a family tradition.

HANDMADE

THE

Whitebirk Sink Co.

LIMITED

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#### HANDMADE IN ENGLAND

#### OUR STORY

It was right here in Lancashire that the very first traditional fireclay sinks were made, back in the late 1800s. Centuries later, here at the Whitebirk Sink Company we're proud to be the only British-owned company continuing this fine tradition.

Each original sink takes time to make, and our master craftsmen use time-honoured methods that have remained unchanged over generations. The nature of our handmade process creates tiny but distinctive variations between each sink, making every one of them truly unique.







#### OUR CRAFTSMEN

We employ a skilled team of local craftspeople and master artisans here at our Blackburn base, honouring Lancashire's esteemed manufacturing heritage by using traditional materials and long-established techniques.

Motivated by a tireless passion for their craft, these gifted men and women use their rare talents to keep these traditional methods alive, making each and every fireclay sink a marvel of authentic, specialist manufacturing.

Today, we have the enviable distinction of being the only British-owned company to be making handmade fireclay Belfast sinks. We're determined to stay worthy of this legacy by handcrafting high quality products that embody flawless aesthetics, solid durability and endless practicality, ensuring they provide our customers with a lifetime of service.



# HANDMADE IN ENGLAND

#### OUR PROCESS

#### MODELLING AND MOULDING

Each sink design is hand modelled in plaster, formed slightly oversize to allow for the natural clay shrinkage that occurs through the production process. From here, we make the reverse plaster mould, which will be dried for up to two weeks in dedicated temperature-controlled rooms. This ensures optimum production performance and dimensional consistency.

#### CLAY CASTING

We use virgin local clays, giving us an industry-leading level of control over dimensional accuracy and consistency. All materials are tested to (and exceed) British, European and North American standards. Our clay is cast into the preconditioned moulds, tightly packed to a controlled thickness and left to start the drying process. This method has been used for centuries and is tried and tested to offer the best performance specifications and strength.

Between twenty-four and forty-eight hours later, the sink is then 'turned out' from the mould to continue the drying process.

#### HAND FINISHING AND DRYING

After the sink has been turned out of the mould, we meticulously hand finish the surfaces with a variety of wooden and metal tools, along with leathers, all to give the required finish. The sinks are allowed to dry naturally at room temperature for a few days. Then, they're moved into our automated, humidity controlled drying rooms, to fully remove any residual moisture.

#### **GLAZE APPLICATION**

The glazing is done in two stages. First, the engobe (a type of undercoat) is applied, then they are given the final coat of glaze. In the case of our mottled finish, complex glazes are required to achieve this beautiful effect. This process takes a three coat application. Now, they're ready for the kiln.

#### FIRING

The sinks are set on the kiln for a firing process that will take them over 36 hours, reaching temperatures of more than 1180 degrees Celsius. We obtain the beautiful finish by firing at varying temperatures during this time, before the sinks are allowed to cool naturally in the kiln.

#### **INSPECTION**

Our experienced craftsmen personally inspect every sink that we produce, attesting to its quality, integrity and durability. This allows us to conform to the standards set out by BS 1206 1974. The nature of the handmade process also means that tiny variations can occur between each sink. This means when you buy a sink from us, you'll be buying one that is - in its own way beautifully unique.



### THE HERITAGE

• COLLECTION •

- Billion

SAMLESBURY - SINGLE



#### HERITAGE COLLECTION

Single Bowls

Each handcrafted sink in our traditional Heritage Collection is as practical as it is beautiful, and equally at home in traditional or contemporary kitchens. They are available in a range of understated styles, all guaranteed to provide a lifetime of service and pleasure. All of the sinks below are available in a range of colours.



THE FULL PRODUCT DETAILS AND DIMENSIONS OF OUR HANDCRAFTED SINKS ARE AVAILABLE TO VIEW ON OUR WEBSITE.





Double Bowls

Our Heritage double bowl sinks are designed with a slightly dropped dividing wall that gives them unrivalled practicality, making them perfect for busy kitchens. Handcrafted with quality and reliability in mind, they're available in a range of styles to bestow an air of subtle grace to any kitchen. All of the sinks below are available in a range of colours.



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## ACCESSORIES

THE



PREMIUM BASKET STRAINER WITH LEVER



Our sink accessories have been carefully designed to complement our range of handcrafted sinks. Our uniquely designed basket strainers proudly incorporate our Lancashire Rose logo, mindfully chosen to reflect our heritage.



STANDARD BASKET STRAINER COMPATIBLE WITH ALL SINKS EXCEPT BELFAST AND CLEVELEYS



BELFAST WASTE COMPATIBLE WITH BELFAST AND CLEVELEYS



#### PREMIUM BASKET STRAINER WITH BUTTON

COMPATIBLE WITH ALL SINKS EXCEPT BELFAST AND CLEVELEYS



PREMIUM BASKET STRAINER WITH LEVER

COMPATIBLE WITH ALL SINKS EXCEPT BELFAST AND CLEVELEYS

MORE FINISHES MAY BE AVAILABLE. PLEASE GET IN TOUCH TO FIND OUT.



#### WHITEBIRK SINK COMPANY

ENGLAND



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