

## POTTERY



Pottery is the most commonly found object in Near Eastern excavations. Household objects such as storage jars, cooking pots, **cups**, bowls and lamps were all made of clay and are frequently broken when found. Time and patience are required to mend and reconstruct these ancient vessels.

The Israelites made most of their pottery on a wheel and fired it in a kiln, but because no glaze was used the pottery was porous. Large pieces were made of clay coils, and some smaller ones were formed in molds. Their simple shape and lack of decorative painting acknowledges that these vessels were made for everyday use and not designed as objects of beauty or prestige.

Place cup here

## IRON AGE HOUSES

An excellent example of a **four room house**, typical of the Iron Age Period, was found just inside the gateway at Tell en-Nasbeh and is reconstructed in this model. The upper part of the house is conjectural; only the foundations and the pillars, shown here supporting the roof, were excavated. Household activities such as cooking and spinning probably took place in the open central courtyard and rooms sheltered animals as well as people. The roof provided additional living space and the house may even have had a second story. The low wall or parapet around the roof is prescribed in Deuteronomy 22:8.

