

Welcome to the Maker's Q&A

We ask a farOpen member a dozen quick questions about their life as a maker.



Your name

Amanda Dawson (Timms)

Your craft

Ceramics

Describe your work in 3 words

Rustic, Textured, Organic

How long have you been a maker?

6 years

What's the best part of your process?

The simplicity and meditative, slow rhythm of slab building and the joy of watching raw clay transform into useful objects.

What's the worst part of your process?

Waiting for the kiln to cool down — patience is key, but it's always a challenge!

Do you have a favourite book about your craft?

The Complete Guide to Mid-Range Glazes
by John Britt

What are you reading?

Terry Hayes Locust

What's your favourite film?

School of Rock

What do you listen to in your studio?

Geopolitical podcasts

What one thing would improve your life as a maker?

More organized studio space with heating and running water

What's the best piece of advice you have received?

It doesn't need to be perfect

What's the worst thing you can say to a maker?

"Can you make it cheaper?" — it devalues the time, skill, and heart behind handcrafted work.

Life as a maker can be challenging, would you do it all again?

Absolutely. There's nothing more fulfilling than shaping something meaningful from raw materials and sharing it with others.