

Porcelain

March 1, 2026 • vajiramandravi.com



Porcelain Latest News

In the waters off Singapore, a recently uncovered shipwreck with a huge cargo of blue-and-white porcelain is shedding light on the storied Chinese craft produced during the turbulent era of the Mongol Empire.

About Porcelain

- It is a **type of ceramic material** that is **highly durable** and has **high-performance characteristics** due to its production process.
- It is **made from** a combination of **natural materials** including **kaolin (china clay), feldspar, and quartz**.
- Porcelain was **first made in China**—in a **primitive form during the Tang dynasty (618-907 CE)** and in the **form best known in the West** during the **Yuan dynasty (1279-1368 CE)**.
- The **word** porcelain is **derived from porcellana, used by Marco Polo** to describe the **pottery he saw in China**.
- It is **often called “china.”**
- There are **three major types** of porcelain historically used in dinnerware and decorative pieces: **hard paste, soft paste, and bone china**.
 - **Hard-paste** porcelain **dates back to antiquity in China** and gets its durability from **firing at a very high temperature**.
 - The **exact composition** of porcelain **varies** depending on its **use and the manufacturer**, though one **common ingredient is kaolin**, a soft white clay that is combined with other ingredients like mica, quartz, and feldspar.
 - **Soft-paste** porcelain was **made by Europeans** attempting to achieve the durability and translucence of Chinese porcelain.
 - It **often incorporated materials like ground glass or soapstone** and was **fired at a lower temperature**.
 - Finally, **bone china incorporates** up to **50% bone ash** in its recipe and was developed during the **mid-18th century in England**.
- **Properties of Porcelain:**
 - **High material density**.
 - **Smooth, glossy surface**, which is particularly **translucent** and gives porcelain products a refined, elegant character.
 - **High resistance to scratches and breakage**, making it ideal for everyday use as well as special occasions.

Source: [CNN](#)