

The information on lids given here refers to dense, mature, low absorption clay bodies like porcelain and most stonewares, etc. Bodies that, in other words, are inclined to warp, slump and bend in the fire if not properly made. More "porous" bodies, like most earthenware, would allow you to take more chances with "extended" forms.

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Lid handout 1: from Cushing's Handbook, by Val Cushing, Professor of Ceramic Art at Alfred University.