Important: Do not bend or cut the thermocouple.

You can install the thermocouple (temperature sensor) through an existing ½” thermocouple hole, through a drilled peephole plug, or by drilling a new hole in the kiln.

If you use an existing ½” hole, first insert the porcelain insulator on the thermocouple. Then insert the thermocouple into the hole. The thermocouple must protrude into the firing chamber at least ½” to 5/8”.

IMPORTANT! If the thermocouple falls out of the kiln during firing or if the tip moves out of the firing chamber, the kiln will over-fire. Monitor the kiln during firing to make sure the thermocouple has not moved.

Drilling a 1/8” Thermocouple Hole

1 Drill a 1/8” hole in either a row of blank bricks or between two brick rows, approximately midway between floor and top. Avoid drilling closer than 1” to a heating element. Use a tape measure, if needed, and mark the location of the hole on the kiln case.

2 Wearing safety glasses, drill a 1/8” hole all the way through the kiln case and wall.

3 Enlarge the 1/8” hole in the kiln case to 1/4”. Using a ¼” drill bit, drill just deep enough to go through the case and no further. Enlarging the hole in the kiln case to 1/4” will prevent the thermocouple from touching the grounded steel case.

4 Press the thermocouple into the hole so that ½” to 5/8” or more of the tip protrudes into the firing chamber.

REMINDER: If the thermocouple is pulled out of the hole, the kiln will overfire.

5 Position the thermocouple lead wires so they are away from the hot sides of the kiln case, the cord set, or any other electrical appliances or wiring.