THE ORIGINS AND USE OF THE POTTER’S WHEEL IN ANCIENT EGYPT

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To the memory of Amanda, who always thought that even the smallest achievements should be properly recorded.

Also to the memory of my cousin Ellen Doherty, taken from our family too soon and who shared my deep love of Africa.
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In pottery, a potter's wheel is a machine used in the shaping (known as throwing) of round ceramic ware. The wheel may also be used during the process of trimming the excess body from dried ware, and for applying incised decoration or rings of colour. Use of the potter's wheel became widespread throughout the Old World but was unknown in the Pre-Columbian New World, where pottery was handmade by methods that included coiling and beating.