

Bronze Vessel Glossary

bo Bell with a flat (as opposed to arched) lip suspended from a loop. Ritual vessel for cooked food with a round body and three legs.

dou Ritual vessel for offering food, shaped as a shallow cup on a high foot.

dui Ritual vessel for offering food, consisting of two matching halves of equal size

that make a rounded box when together and two bowls on legs when

separated.

fang ding
Rectangular form of ding used for cooked food.
Rectangular ritual vessel for wine, shaped like a box.
Lidded jar-shaped ritual vessel used for holding wine.

fu Rectangular ritual vessel for holding food.

gong Ritual vessel for wine, shaped like a jug and covered by a lid decorated with

animal heads.

gu Ritual vessel for wine with a curved profile contricted at the waist.

guan Jar more common in ceramic than in bronze.

gui Ritual vessel for offering food. Throughout the Zhou dynasty most gui had

two handles although a few were cast with four.

he Ritual vessel for holding water.
hu Ritual vessel for holding wine.

jia Ritual vessel for wine drinking, with a cup-shaped body supported on three

blade-like legs.

jue Ritual vessel used for wine drinking shaped like a cup supported by three

blade-like legs. The mouth has a spout at one end and a point at the other.

pan Shallow basin used as a ritual vessel for holding water.

taotie Decorative motif used on many bronze vessels – resembles a face.

you Ritual wine vessel with an S-shaped profile, a lid and a long U-shaped handle.