

BASIC CANDLE MAKING KIT

This kit contains everything you need (except standard kitchen equipment) to make 10 votive sized candles in with up to 15 hours burn time each.

Remember, when you've created your first 10 candles, you can buy a refill kit so you can make another 10 in any of our available flavours.



Take Care

Making candles involves heat so you need to be careful. This kit is not suitable for young children and any under 18s should be carefully supervised. The metal moulds have sharp lips so take special care handling them.

Wax should never be heated over a naked flame or it might ignite. Never leave melting wax unattended and take great care when handling molten wax.

When you come to burning your candles, make sure you do so in a suitable container (such as the glass votive holders supplied by us) on a flat surface and never leave them unattended.

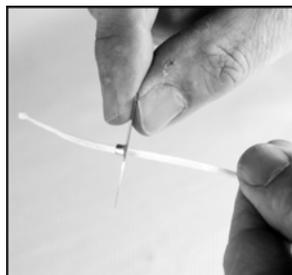
What you will need to make two votive candles

- 100g paraffin wax
- wick
- 2 wick holders
- 2 self-centring metal tabs
- 1 wooden stirrer
- Blotack
- 1g dye (depending on depth of colour required)
- 5ml scent (optional)

You also need two saucepans (one large, one small). These can be old or cheap but mustn't be used subsequently for food. Finally, you'll need scissors, kitchen scales and a set of pliers.

Instructions

1. Fill your larger saucepan to a third of its volume with water and bring it to the boil. Place the smaller saucepan inside.
2. Add the paraffin wax and beeswax to the smaller pan to melt, stirring occasionally.
3. Cut a piece of wick to the same length as the stirrer, now cut it in half.
4. Once the wax has melted, drop the wick into the pan, leave it for a second or two and use the stirrer to pull it out. It'll set almost immediately.
5. Take a waxed wick and pass it through the hole in a tab so that the tab is exactly on one end of the wick. Use pliers to firmly squeeze the collar closed. Repeat with the other one.
6. Now, take one of the waxed, tabbed, wicks and pass it through the hole of one of the wick holders.
7. Position the wick holder on the lip of a votive mould and drop the tab into the bottom of the mould, making sure the wick is as straight as possible.



8. Pull it up so that it is just off the bottom (just a few millimetres) and fold the wick as it comes through the hole of the wick holder - apply a piece of blutack to fix in place. What you have, at the end of this, is the wick holder across the lip of the votive mould with the tab just above the bottom of the mould.
9. Repeat for the other mould, then remove the wick assemblies and put each one next to the mould it fits.
10. Add dye to the wax and stir. Once it's fully melted, it's time for the first pour.



First Pour

11. If you're using scent pour it into the pan now and mix.
12. Pour the melted wax carefully into each of the moulds, filling to no more than 90% of the mould height.
13. Now, drop the wick assembly into each mould, making sure it's properly centred. The wax around the wick will melt and the weight of the tab will pull the wick downwards and straighten it.
14. Repeat with the other mould and leave to set for around an hour. Leave the remaining wax in the pan, with a lid on to stop the scent evaporating, and turn off the heat.



Second Pour

15. As it sets, the wax will shrink, pulling it away from the edges of the mould and also creating a "dip" around the wick which we need to fill.
16. Warm the wax in the pan again.
17. Remove the blutack and the wick holders, then top up the wax in each mould. It's best to add enough to simply fill in the dip and level the surface but you can fill the mould if you'd prefer.
18. Pop the wick holder over each wick again just to keep it straight, no need for blutack.
19. To speed things up, you can pop it in the fridge to finish cooling.
20. Once it's fully set, each candle should pop out easily enough. If not, cool further before trying again. Trim the wick to around 1cm with scissors.
21. Leave to cool for several hours, or overnight, before lighting.

More from MakingYourOwnCandles.co.uk

Once you've made your first batch, why not buy a refill to make another 10 votive candles for a very low price? Or how about low price glassware to burn your candles in? Find both, and much more, at www.makingyourowncandles.co.uk

We'd love it if you'd join us at our Facebook community - you'll find it at www.facebook.com/MakingYourOwnCandles - where you can ask questions, post photos of your candles and chat with us and our wonderful community of candle making friends.

And remember, you can email us at any time: Peta would love to hear from you at peta@makingyourowncandles.co.uk.