



Make your own Soap with this kit, compliments of the Becket Athenaeum!

Please read all instructions before beginning!

How to Make Melt & Pour Soap

What You Need (*included in this kit)

- Cutting Board
- Glass Measuring Cup
- Large Knife
- Measuring Spoons
- Paper Towels
- Plastic Wrap
- Rubber Spatula
- Soap mold (some options for molds include plastic yogurt containers, candy molds, cardboard milk cartons, plastic food storage containers, and cardboard boxes lined with plastic wrap)
- Rubbing Alcohol in Spray Bottle
- Melt and Pour Soap Base*
- Essential Oil* (Use caution! Essential Oils are extremely volatile and should NOT be ingested or used near eyes or directly on skin.)

Instructions

1. Make sure that your knife, measuring cup, and cutting board are clean and free of any dirt. The soap will pick it up and it will be hard to get out.

Cut the melt and pour soap base into small chunks and place them into the glass measuring cup until you have the amount that your mold will hold.

2. Cover the container with plastic wrap to prevent the soap base from drying out as it is heated.

Heat the soap in the microwave, starting with just a minute at a time. Remove the soap and stir it. It will be thick and chunky. Repeat heating the soap base a minute or so at a time and stirring it until no chunks remain and the soap is completely melted.

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If you prefer not to use a microwave, the soap base can be melted in a double boiler.

Most soap bases will be about 150 degrees when completely melted, so handle with care to avoid any burns.

3. Slowly add the Essential Oil to the Melted Soap Base.
4. Stir the melted soap to completely incorporate the essential oil. Do this GENTLY to avoid bubbles in the soap. If bubbles form, a light spritz of rubbing alcohol from a spray bottle will remove them.
5. Slowly pour the soap into the mold. Try not to splash the soap and, again, avoid bubbles if possible.

Carefully move the mold to a safe place, cover with plastic wrap, and begin cleaning up.

The soap should be hard enough to unmold in a few hours. Alternatively, place the mold in the refrigerator (NOT the freezer) and it should be hard in an hour or so.

6. When the soap is completely hardened, you should be able to pop the bars out of the mold. Some molds release easily but others may be more difficult. Tapping the mold firmly with the palm of your hand or a large spoon sometimes helps.

For a persistent bar, you can turn the mold over and run hot water over the back of it. The soap should fall easily out of the mold.

You can rub off or trim off any imperfections with a cloth or small knife.

Since the melt and pour soap base is already cured, there's no waiting. You can use your soap right away!

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If you have leftover supplies or packaging materials from your kit that you do not plan to use, please consider returning them to the library so that we can repurpose them. Thank you!