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# Melt & Pour Soapmaking



## **Synopsis**

Soaps fragrant with oils or spices, fizzing up the bath, or molded into perfect petals to place in a pretty jar beside the sink. Ones with guardian angels or good luck coins tucked inside. A virtual cornucopia of beautiful soaps will delight your senses with their scents, shapes, and feel. (Of course, they'll get you clean too, oh so gently, but they're almost too attractive to use up!) And, these soaps are easy to make, out of the kindest, chemical-free ingredients. Just take a commercially available glycerine or coconut-oil base, cut it up, and melt in a microwave or double boiler. Pour the liquid into molds to set--and let the real fun begin. Your imagination will go wild with possibilities as you check out different types of aromatic and essential oil (with tips on blending); additives such as almond or beeswax, colorants; and molds for hexagons, delicate shells, and more. Plus: information on hand milling! A Selection of the Crafters Choice Book Club.

## **Book Information**

Hardcover: 128 pages

Publisher: Sterling; FIRST EDITIION edition (June 30, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0806929987

ISBN-13: 978-0806929989

Product Dimensions: 10.3 x 8.8 x 0.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.3 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (56 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #168,862 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #27 inÂ  Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Folkcrafts #135 inÂ  Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Soap Making #232 inÂ  Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Reference

## **Customer Reviews**

Having never made soap before, and even though I would like to try it from scratch (with lye) someday, reading up and experimenting on melt and pour was a helpful experience that helped me understand enough to read about using lye without being overwhelmed with too much information at once. Plus, I live in an apartment and sometimes melt and pour is simply more practical. One of the best qualities of this book is the beautiful pictures, not only for the finished product, but pictures of the different processes as well. The package ideas are also beautiful and well presented. As a visual learner, I found that invaluable. For that, and the bath salt/bath bomb recipes, I would buy this

book in a heartbeat should i need to replace it. The recipes are also pretty easy to follow. My biggest complaint with the book is not the lack of a resource list (that can be overcome with a search engine, and maybe list specific books), but the persistent prevalent use of fragrance oils vs. essential oils in every recipe. There are good explanations (with pictures), explaining the history and characteristics of soap ingredients. She even explains that the cost of some essential oils (due to protected plants, or simply the huge amount of plant material needed to make them) has made their use prohibitive, and so fragrance oil is often now used instead. However, the author then never bothers to explain that while fragrance oils have the same smell, they do not have the same herbal or therapeutic properties as an essential oil. This seems funny when there is a paragraph touting the benefits of making your own soap because of all the artificial ingredients in purchased soap. Even if you now have petroleum free soap, aren't fragrance oils synthetic?

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