

UPCYCLED BEESWAX CANDLE

Free Resources | ReCreativity



Bask in the glow of your zero-waste creativity!

Materials

- Recycled Beeswax
- Recycled Butcher's Twine
- Recycled Glass Pot
- Scissors
- Paper Clip
- Wooden Stick
- Kitchen Stove or Electric Burner
- Saucepan
- Water
- Ribbon (Optional)



Steps

• 1 •

Clean your recycled materials. Wash and dry the beeswax and the glass pot thoroughly. Remove as much of the clay residue from the beeswax as possible and the paint or glaze residue from the glass pot.



• 2 •

Cut a 5" length of recycled butcher's twine. You may decide to get creative and bend the

paperclip into any shape you'd like — or use it as is. Tie one end of the butcher's twine to the paperclip and trim that end of the twine as close to the paperclip as possible.



• 3 •

Cut or break the beeswax into small pieces (about 1/4" square) that will fit into the glass pot. Fill the pot, all the way to the top, with the little bits of beeswax. Reserve extra squares to add during the melting process.

• 4 •

Place the glass pot with the wax in the saucepan. Making sure the wax remains dry, carefully add water to the saucepan until the water reaches ~3/4 of the glass pot's height. Slowly bring the water to a boil, watching to ensure that the water doesn't spill or boil over into the wax-filled pot.



• 5 •

Once the water starts to boil, reduce the heat to medium-low. The beeswax will deepen in color as it melts. Allow the water to simmer so the beeswax turns entirely to its liquid state. Continue to add a few small squares of beeswax at a time until the glass pot is close-to-filled with melted wax. If the wax becomes too hot during melting, it can cause cracking in the beeswax candle during the cooling process.

• 6 •

Wrap the twine tied to the paperclip around the wooden stick. Then, slowly lower the paperclip into the melted beeswax — by unwinding it from the stick — until the paperclip rests at the bottom of the glass pot. Place the stick across the top of the glass pot to keep the twine from falling into the wax.



• 7 •

Turn the heat off — leaving the glass pot in the saucepan of hot water. Allow the beeswax to harden slowly as the water cools. This cooling method will help prevent the wax from cracking. Beeswax has a very low melting point — in other words, melts quickly and cools quickly — so, you should be able to remove your candle from the water within a half an hour.

• 8 •

Once the wax has turned back to its solid state, appearing pale yellow again and the glass pot is cool enough to handle, carefully remove it from the water. Discard the water. Remove the wooden stick and create

a wick by trimming the butcher's twine to ~1/4 inch in length.



• 9 •

Optional last step — adorn the candle with brightly-colored ribbons.

• 10 •

Find a special place in your home for your UpCycled Beeswax Candle. Once you light it, you'll be able to bask in the glow of your zero-waste creativity!



WARNING

An adult should always supervise children during the candle-making activity. Never leave the melting beeswax or a lighted candle unattended.