



WAX SEAL

Abigail's Activities

A wax seal was the only way to seal a letter in Abigail's day. Today we have envelopes with glue built right in, but these wax seals give a letter an extra special touch.

Things You'll Need:

A seal stamp
Sealing wax sticks
Paper or envelope
Vegetable oil

Directions:

Gather your supplies. You can find wax sticks and seals at various specialty stores or online. Choose an appropriate seal. If you can find a brass one, use it. Brass seals do not need to be oiled and are much easier to work with. Crimson is the traditional wax color, but you can use any color you like.

If the seal you have is not brass, no need to worry. Dab some oil onto the seal and rub it in with a paper towel. Light the wick of your wax stick so that the wax starts to heat up. Drip the molten wax onto the area you wish to seal. Drip enough wax so that it creates a pool the size of a nickel. Set your wax stick aside in a piece of tin foil.

Press the seal into the wax vertically and apply pressure evenly so that the impression is made entirely. Lift off the seal and allow the wax to cool.

Protect the seal if you're not going to be hand delivering the document or envelope. The wax can be brittle and break in the mail. Place it inside a padded envelope or deliver by hand for the best results.

Ask a grown-up for help when using knives and other sharp objects, and when using candles. Be sure to use pot holders when handling warm wax.

The Winter of Red Snow

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