



HOMEMADE CANDLES

Abigail's Activities

All of Abigail's candles would have been handmade—there was no scented candle shop in her day. Also, candles would have been her primary light source. Today, thankfully, we have light bulbs.

Things You'll Need:

Wooden skewers or chopsticks
Candle dyes
Candle molds
Candle scents
Candle wax
Candle wicks
Stove
Double boiler
Pot holders
Scissors
Wooden spoons
Old nylon stockings

Directions:

Making candles can be a dangerous task. Be sure to have an adult help you with the process. Choose your wax, mold, and wick. You can find all of these supplies at a craft store. You can add scents to your candle as well. Follow the instructions that come with the supplies you've purchased, as they will vary greatly depending upon the brand.

After preparing your mold and wick, melt the wax in a double boiler until it reaches pouring temperature. If you don't have a double boiler, you can place a metal mixing bowl over a pot of simmering water. The pouring temperature should be specified on the packaging that comes with the candle wax. Tilt the mold and pour the wax smoothly down the sides. Fill the mold to within a couple of inches from the top. Gently tap the mold to release air bubbles in the wax.

Poke a skewer or chopstick down along the wick to release air bubbles. Watch for the candle to shrink as it cools. Top off the wax to the original level. Put the cooled candle and mold into the refrigerator for 10 minutes. Turn the mold upside down over a clean towel. The candle should slide out easily.

The Winter of Red Snow

1.

Homemade Candles



HOMEMADE CANDLES *(continued)*

Abigail's Activities

If you want your candles to look really great, you can polish them with a nylon stocking. Untie the wick and trim it to 1/2 inch above the top of the candle. To even out the bottom of the candle, place it in a warm skillet and let it melt until it is level.

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

2.

Homemade Candles