



Ayursparsha

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Melt & Pour Soap

Melt and pour soap is a great option for beginners. All you have to do is melt the premade base, customize it with your favorite colors and scents, and pour into a mold. Once you get the hang of the process, you can experiment with advanced techniques like layers and swirls.

Soap base: There are several options to choose from when selecting a base. Clear and White Melt and Pour is a good place to start. They're simple, cleansing, and ready to customize. The clear base will have more bright colors, while the white will have more pastel colors. You can also try bases with additives like shea butter, goat milk, or aloe vera.

Fragrance: You can scent your soap with fragrance oils or essential oils. A general usage rate is about 2 -3 ml. of scent per 100 gms of soap. Find light, medium, and strong recommendations with the Fragrance Calculator. It's important to use skin-safe scents. Potpourri, craft, or candle fragrances may not be skin safe or tested in soap. Be sure to check with the fragrance manufacturer before use.

Glycerin: Glycerin is a natural byproduct of the saponification process. It's one of the reasons handmade soap feels so amazing – it draws moisture to the skin and keeps it hydrated. Additional glycerin is added during the melt and pour manufacturing process to make it easy to work with. It can also cause the soap to sweat in humid climates, so make sure to wrap your bars and keep them in a cool, dry place.

Molds: You need to use a mold that can withstand higher temperatures so it doesn't melt when you pour in hot soap. You also want it to be flexible so it's easy to unmold the bars. We love silicone and plastic molds for melt and pour.

Colorants: There are plenty of options for coloring melt and pour soap. Micas and color blocks are easy to use and they look great in the finished bars. We don't recommend options like food coloring or crayons because they haven't been tested or approved for use in soap. They tend to morph, fade, or bleed.

Safety: Soap bases start to melt around 50 to 60 Celsius. Use heat-safe tools and handle with care – melted soap can hurt if dripped or splashed on skin. When crafting with children, they should be old enough to hold their own containers and an adult should be present at all times.

Heating Melt and Pour Soap

Regardless of the soap base you choose, the first step to making your own melt and pour soap is chopping the soap base into small pieces. This helps the soap melt evenly and quickly. Chop the melt and pour soap base into small pieces, roughly 1cm (1/2in) cubes.



It's critical that the melt and pour soap base is melted with a slow, gentle heat to prevent burning. While you may be tempted to just toss the soap base into a pot on the stove, or pop it in the microwave for 5 minutes in one go, those are quick ways to ruin your soap. It's really hard to ruin melt and pour soap, but burning it will do it every time.

Soap bases melt at around 120 degrees, so it doesn't take much to melt them. If you're using a microwave, melt the soap base in 30-second increments and stir in between each session. That helps distribute to heat and prevents burning.

Or, if you're living back in the stone age like I am, and don't have a microwave, a double boiler on the stove top works just fine. Put a bit of water into a saucepan and place a heat safe bowl on top. Bring the water to a low simmer and the steam below the bowl will gently melt the soap base.

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Regardless of whether you're using a microwave or stovetop to melt the soap base, it happens quick. After about 2 minutes over simmering water, my soap base was about 80% melted. At this point, turn off the heat and begin stirring. This will allow the last bits to melt with residual heat, and keep the soap at a nice low temperature making it easier to work handle.



Once the soap base has been gently heated, it's time to incorporate add ins and fragrances and then pour it into a soap mold of your choice. Let it set for about an hour to cool and firm up, and then the melt and pour soap is ready to use. Simple as that.

Choosing the additives, colors and scents is what makes a batch of soap unique, here's some guidance and inspiration for your own unique soaps...

Melt and Pour Soap Additives

Once the soap base is completely melted, it's time for the fun part! Here's where you get to be creative and decide on add-ins to make the soap your own personal creation. This is where you get to add skin conditioners, colors, scents and exfoliants.

Soapmaking Colors

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This is where an elementary school color wheel comes in handy. White soap bases tend to have a pastel hue no matter how much soap colorant is added, while clear soap bases will show brighter primary colors. How much colorant to add depends on the type of colorant you're using, so read the instructions carefully. Only use colorants designed specifically for soaps. They're skin safe, and they won't bleed, fade or cause skin reactions. Avoid using food coloring, melted crayons and just about anything else you think might work. Just don't.

Types of Soaps:-

- Basic Soaps.
- Lemongrass Bar.
- Oatmeal Scrub Bar.
- Coffee Rolls.



- Lavender Soap Bar.
- Olive Cream Bar.
- Herbal earthy Soap.
- Vanilla Bars, etc.

Types of Soap Bases:-

- Transparent Soap Base.
- Opal White Slab.
- Sulphate free Base.
- Charcoal Soap Base.
- Aloe Vera Soap Base.
- Papaya Soap Base.
- Cucumber Soap Base.
- Extra Clear Soap Base.
- Goat milk Soap Base.
- Extra Soft Soap Base.



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