

SOAP

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The essential oils add scents to the soaps. Allen uses lavender, pink grapefruit, tea tree, eucalyptus, peppermint, rosemary and geranium and many more. "The sky's the limit" in what oils can be used, she said.

According to Encyclopedia Britannica, essential oils are considered "essential" because they are thought to represent the very essence of odor and flavor.

Once the batch is thoroughly mixed, Allen pours it into a mold. The mold is a silicon liner she purchased that's placed in a wooden frame built by her husband.

She then adds her own artistic flair by decorating what will become the tops of the soap bars.

The block is allowed to cool and saponify for 24 hours before being cut. The bars are then left to cure for four to six weeks before they're ready for market.

Marketing

Until now, Allen has largely just sold her products in person but she has expanded to include a few local outlets, such as the Lower Valley Farmers Market in Wallowa, M. Crow in Lostine and the Josephy Center for Arts and Culture in Joseph.

She intends to continue to participate as a vendor in such events as the Christmas bazaars in the county and expand to also attend the "spring extravaganza" bazaar in Lewiston, Idaho, as well as their Christmas bazaar.



Bill Bradshaw/Wallowa County Chieftain
Chrystal Allen, owner of Chrystal Springs Soapery in Wallowa, pours the completed mixture into a mold Wednesday, April 13, 2022, to allow the soap she sells to set up before selling.

As for prices, most soaps sell for \$7 per bar or \$20 for three bars. But that's in person. When sold on her website, www.chrystalspringsoapery.com, they go for \$8 a bar — plus shipping — and \$9 each at M Crow and the Josephy Center. Other prices are available online.

Other products include body butter and beeswax lip balm, among other products. "Right now, I'm trying to perfect my deodorant recipe," she said. "I won't sell something that I don't love or that I wouldn't use myself."

A one-woman show

Allen said her operation is largely a one-woman show. "I really do it all myself, other than friends and family trying them out and giving me their honest opinions," she said.

Those opinions are

what help her decide how to adjust recipes. And she's gotten some valuable feedback.

One such opinion came

from her logger husband, Clayton.

"It even removes pitch from my husband's beard with ease," she said.

The future?

"I want to keep things steady and keep growing," Allen said of her plans for the future.

She said she's always interested in expanding, but is taking it slowly. At present, in addition to bar soaps, she sells a solid dish soap, an exfoliating pouch, mineral bath salt soaks, body butter and beeswax lip balm, among other products.

"When everyone says it's great, then I'll start selling it," she said.

TECH

Continued from Page B1

Shutting down ad personalization won't entirely prevent advertisers from stalking you, but it should cut down on the number of companies that have your data, Germain says.

If you have an iPhone or iPad, a feature in the iOS 15 operating software update called the "App Privacy Report" can show how you're being profiled and tracked, suggests Emory Roane, policy counsel at Privacy Rights Clearinghouse.

"Turn that on, leave it running for a week or two, and then it'll tell you a very detailed list of which apps are doing what," Roane says. "It's a great, great resource for iOS users."

More steps to take

An easy way to cut down on data mining is to switch to browsers built with privacy in mind, such as

Firefox or Brave, Germain suggests.

Also, try to slow down. Many sites and apps ask you to make privacy decisions on the fly, making it easy to click on the wrong spot in your rush to get rid of the pop-up screen.

"All it takes is that one incorrect answer, and suddenly, you've given all these permissions," Sullivan says.

Finally, if you care about privacy, let your lawmakers know. Consumers are "woefully ill equipped" to fight all the ways our data is being mined and used, Roane says.

"The real 'quick tip' is that you need to call your representative and tell them to support stronger privacy laws," he says.

Liz Weston, Certified Financial Planner, is a personal finance columnist for NerdWallet. Questions may be sent to her at 3940 Laurel Canyon, No. 238, Studio City, CA 91604, or by using the "Contact" form at asklizweston.com.

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THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2022

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Roulette color
- 5 Ottoman title
- 8 Job
- 12 Whale like Shamu
- 13 Weep
- 14 Russian range
- 15 Taco filling
- 16 Letter after sigma
- 17 Garden tool
- 18 Prefix for cycle
- 20 "The Walking Dead" walker
- 22 Grounds
- 25 Chaotic place
- 26 Clairvoyance, briefly
- 27 Banned bug spray
- 30 Lebanese dish
- 34 Durocher and Tolstoy
- 36 "Come again?"
- 38 Kind of sled
- 39 Jousting's weapon

DOWN

- 1 Head, slangily
- 2 Metal source
- 3 Kind of cube
- 4 Flat floaters

Answer to Previous Puzzle

OMEN	HELM	DOC
FORA	ARIA	AVE
FIRM	NABS	FED
END	OUTRE	
NEEDY	SANG	
OAT	ESPAN	HARD
TUN	TAROT	BEA
EXAM	RING	BAR
TWIG	INAPT	
OZONE	OFA	
WAG	APEX	TWOS
ENE	RIME	TERI
DYE	SPUN	YEAR

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- Black's Distributing
- Ryder Bros
- VFW
- Baker Elk's Lodge
- Main Event
- Lefty's Tap House
- Baker City Fire Dept.
- Haines Sell-Rite
- Idle Hour
- Salvation Army

104 Community Calendar

VFW POST 460
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 Corner of Main at Birch in Union

LA GRANDE LIONS CLUB
 Meets 2nd & 4th Monday of each month @ 12 PM
 Union County Senior Center
 1504 N. Albany St., La Grande

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