

How to Make a Christmas Candle



by Jerry Klein



ONE WAY to lend a personal touch to your Christmas decorations—and gifts—is to make your own candles. It's inexpensive, simple, and fun for the whole family. A particularly jaunty candle takes the form of a snowman about seven inches tall bearing a sprig of evergreen. To make this, you will need six bars of wax, a wick taken from an old candle, some black crayon, and a red pipe cleaner. First, melt the wax in a double boiler; pour it slowly into a dishpan containing an inch of cold water. When cool, form the wax into three balls—two for the body, one for the head. Form the arms the same way and use toothpicks to hold the wax together.

For the snowman's hat, grease the small end of an egg cup with shortening and fill with black wax, made by adding black crayon to the melted wax. Before this hardens, pour enough black wax into the dishpan to form the hat's brim. After it's cool, form a flat round shape and place on top of the egg cup. When the top of the hat is cold, hollow it out, hold over a lighted candle for a moment, and place on the snowman's head. For trimming, press small buttons onto the body while the wax is warm, or make little buttonholes and fill with glue. Make his mouth, nose, and eyes with red crayon or wax or broken Christmas ornaments. Wind a red pipe cleaner around his neck for a wind-blown muffler. Dip a sprig of evergreen in wax to preserve it. To place the wick in the candle, heat an ice pick, pierce a hole through the snowman's hat, and place the wick all the way down. Pour in wax to fill this hole.

For a free booklet showing how to make other Christmas candles, write to *Candle Decorations*, *Family Weekly*, 179 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago 1, Ill.

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