

# TEN TIPS FOR BEGINNER SOAP-MAKERS



Joan Gorgues, Nelson Gúzman and Melanie Ruiz

## 1.FIND INFORMATION YOURSELF BEFORE YOU START

Soap is made by a chemical reaction between lye and oils, so you need to know what exactly is happening here before you start. Lye is a dangerous material to work with if

## 2.TAKE A CLASS

Whether online or in person, taking a class can lead you through the process of making soap with the guidance of an experienced teacher

## 3.START WITH A SIMPLE RECIPE

-430g of oil -110ml water  
-60g Sodium Hydroxide(Lye) -15ml essence



## 4.DON'T BUY A LOT EXPENSIVE EQUIPMENT

Two things are very important. A digital scale that measures in grams, the other is a hand blender, it is possible to make soap by hand stirring

## 5.PREPARE IN ADVANCE

Having everything prepared at the start means that it is ready and to hand when you need it

## 6.WEAR YOUR SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Safety goggles and gloves are a must. It is really not a good idea to go without either of these. Gloves that are too long in the fingers just get in the way. Goggles should be sturdy and you should be able to see through them



## 7.USE A SLOW-MOVING FRAGRANCE

Most spicy fragrances and spicy essential oils speed up the reaction but essential oils such as lavender are slower

## 8.DON'T DO A WATER DISCOUNT

Soapmakers sometimes use less water than is recommended in the recipe, help with glycerin rivers and enable the soap to be cut sooner

## 9.LEAVE THE DISHES UNTIL THE NEXT DAY

If you wash them straight away, you will find they are still caustic from the lye used to make the soap. It will take a lot of detergent to cut through this and you run the risk of burning yourself on the fresh soap.

## 10.TAKE NOTES

This is really important. For each batch you make, write down your observations in a small notebook, if you use a new fragrance, you can report its behaviour. If you change anything, make a note of any differences



powered by

PIKTOCHART