

# **Instructions Manual:**

## **Beeswax Wrap**

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*Provided by: Ecothot LLC*

*(Thots Against Climate Change)*

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## **Welcome and Congratulations!**

Thank you for choosing Ecothot to continue your creativity and scientific skills to make an upcycled product. This manual will provide instructions to help you during the process of your design. Upcycling is a science and an art, it is not a craft, it is a trade which can be used to transform the world into a more sustainable planet.

### Warning and Hazards

*As you make your candles be advised of the following hazards. Wear safety goggles when working in the laboratory. Aside from injury reduction, hazard awareness can save you time (ruined reactions) and money. Please be advised to wear gloves when handling hot items.*

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### Fabric Types

*Fabric should be thin to medium weight.*

**Cotton:** 100% cotton, it is best to upcycle old clothes that you do not plan to use. Natural fabrics will quickly soak up the beeswax right into the fibers.

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**Hot Wax:** A problem with hot glass is that it looks the same as cool glass. Try to establish routines that allow hot glass to cool in out-of-the-way locations. The use of gloves and tongs can prevent burns, but they may make handling items awkward.

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**Preventing Burns:** Heavy gloves should be worn when washing glassware by hand. Glassware cuts are more common than you might expect and can be serious. Protect hands with gloves, rags, or a shield fashioned from wood or plastic.

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**Proper Disposal:** Used and/or broken glassware should be free of chemical and biological hazards prior to disposal. Most glass is recycled by curbside recycling programs. If not, it can often be brought to your local recycling center for recycling.

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**Footwear:** Finally, open-toed shoes are not recommended in laboratories or studios. Toes in open shoes are more vulnerable to cuts from dropped glassware, chemical attack, and a variety of impact injuries. The most frequent laboratory glassware accidents result in minor cuts. More serious accidents include hazards associated with flying glass, fire, and chemical exposure.

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**Parts Needed**

- ★ Fabric
- ★ Scissors or Fabric Knife
- ★ Paint brush
- ★ Safety Goggles
- ★ Baking Sheet
- ★ Stove
- ★ Beeswax pastilles or shaved block
- ★ Something to hang the wraps to dry

### **Step One: Prep the Fabric**

- Hand wash and hang dry fabric
- Cut the fabric into desired shapes and sizes of your choice

### **Suggested best sizes for beeswax wraps:**

Small - 7x7 or 8x8

Medium - 10x10 or 11x11

Large - 13x13 or 14x14

Extra large - 16x16 or 20x20

### **Step Two: Prep for Oven**

- Preheat oven to (150 F to 200 F)
- Line a baking tray with parchment paper
- Lay the pieces of fabric on top
- Evenly cover the fabric with the beeswax pellets

### **Step Three: Melt and Spread Beeswax**

- Place the baking sheet with wax-sprinkled fabric in the warm oven for 5 minutes
- Once melted, remove the tray from the oven
- Run a brush back and forth across the fabric to evenly spread the melted wax
- While wet, hand dry immediately

### **Using Them:**

Store cut fruit and veggies, around cheese bread and more. They're perfect for bowls, food storage containers, or glass jars instead of plastic wrap or foil which have a larger environmental impact.

### **Troubleshooting:**

As you use, bend, and shape your beeswax wraps, it is totally normal for creases and faint white lines to develop. However, if you apply a

thick coat of beeswax, it will get flaky and shed. Resolve this by remelting your beeswax wrap back in the warm oven, allow the wax to re-melt and remove some of the excess wax and then put it back in the oven once more to even out and finish. In contrast, if your wrap feels limp and not waxy enough (or has visible areas missing wax) apply these steps and put your wrap back in the oven with an additional sprinkle of beeswax to provide a thicker coating.

### **Cleaning and Maintenance:**

Wash your homemade beeswax wraps with cold to lukewarm water and mild soap. Avoid using hot water to avoid melting the wax. Simply wipe them down with a damp cloth. Allow the wraps to air dry and then store them in a cool, dry place. Homemade beeswax wraps are sustainable and can be refreshed once they become old, thin, and/or less sticky. Simply repeat the steps for the old wraps. If they're really old and beat up, you could simply compost them. Since they're made from 100% natural materials, beeswax wraps are biodegradable.