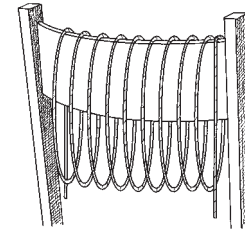


HOW TO MAKE MENORAH CANDLES FROM CRAYONS

You will need 4 cups distilled water; 8 tablespoons boric acid; 4 tablespoons salt; 26 feet of string, twine, or cotton yarn; cardboard; an empty metal coffee can; a saucepan larger than the coffee can; heavy-duty foil; 44 steel washers; and 137 crayons.

- 1 Prepare a mordanting solution for the wick.**
Mix the distilled water, boric acid (Borax), and salt in the large saucepan. This mordanting solution will minimize smoke and ash. Bring the solution to a boil.
- 2 Soak the string in the mordanting solution.**
Submerge the string, twine, or cotton yarn in the boiling solution, remove from the heat, and let steep for four to eight hours.
- 3 Remove the string and hang to dry overnight.**
Hang the string on the back of a folding chair, on a doorknob, or from a curtain rod. Ensure that loops of the string do not touch one another. Discard the mordanting solution and rinse the saucepan.

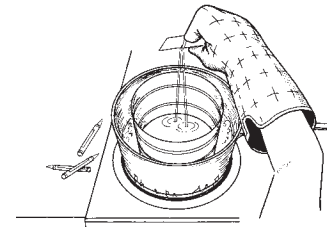
Crayons into Candles



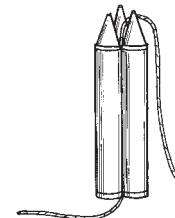
Dry.



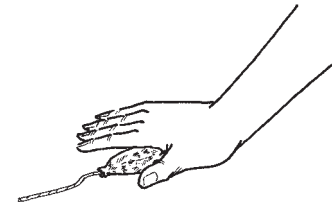
Hang.



Dip.



Bundle.



Roll.

- 4** **When the string is completely dry, cut 22 strands, each 14 inches long.**
Each strand will make a wick for two 6-inch candles at a time. Weight both ends of each length by tying on steel washers. These will keep the wick straight as the candle dries.
- 5** **Prepare the wicks for dipping.**
Drape each string piece over a 2-by-2-inch piece of cardboard folded in half, leaving equal lengths on either side. Cut slashes on opposite sides of the cardboard and lodge the wick into the slashes. Set aside.
- 6** **Place the coffee can in the saucepan on the stovetop.**
Fill the saucepan around the can with 3 to 4 inches of water. Bring the water to a boil, adding more water as necessary to keep the level constant.
- 7** **Melt five crayons in the coffee can.**
Remove all paper from the crayons before melting them. This wax will only be used to coat the wick, not to make the candles.
- 8** **Dip two wicks.**
Leave the wicks in the melted crayons until they are coated; 30 seconds is sufficient. Remove from the can and hang to dry.
- 9** **Once dry, cut the string.**
Remove the cardboard and washers and cut the string so that you have two prepared wicks, each about 7 inches long.

- 10** **Stack three additional crayons around each wick.**
Remove the paper from the crayons first. This arrangement will form your candle. Allow a few extra inches of wick to protrude at each end.
- 11** **Wrap the bundle tightly in several layers of heavy-duty aluminum foil.**
A few layers will be necessary to prevent leaking.
- 12** **Repeat steps 10 and 11 until all 44 candles are prepared.**
- 13** **Heat.**
Place the foil-wrapped bundles on a baking sheet and put in a preheated 200° F oven for 20 minutes to fuse them together.
- 14** **Shape.**
When the bundles are warm and pliable to the touch, roll until the candles are the proper diameter to fit your menorah.
- 15** **Remove the foil.**
- 16** **Set the candles.**
Place them in the refrigerator for 30 minutes to cool.

Be Aware

Crayon-based candles are very smoky, drippy, and tend not to burn evenly. Watch them carefully when lit.