



PURE NATURAL BEESWAX

Beeswax is an amazingly versatile natural product. Did you know the worker bees make beeswax flakes from their abdomen? The bees then chew and shape the wax flakes into honeycomb which the bees use as their house. Beekeepers keep any surplus beeswax during the honey harvest and process it into blocks of wax.

Beeswax is often used in cosmetics, including lip gloss and hand creams as well as being used to waterproof and protect timber, leather and fabric. Here are a few ideas and recipes for how you can use natural beeswax.



BEESWAX FOUNDATION CANDLES

Making beeswax candles is really easy. You can choose the size, height and look without needing heat or moulds. You can buy wick from craft stores and online.

First lie the wick along the edge which will become the centre of the candle. Firmly roll and press the wax over the wick to make good contact, fold it over twice more. The candle is now ready to roll. Watch that it rolls straight, this is best done when the foundation sheet is a little warm as it can be brittle when it is very cold.

For variations, you can cut the foundation and roll triangle shapes to make taper candles and different size rectangle shapes for different height and width of pillar candles.

BEESWAX FURNITURE POLISH

To make up a natural wood protection mix you need a 20:1 ratio of oil to wax.

For example 200g of oil to 10g of beeswax.

It is quite simple, gently heat the oil and wax together in a double boiler until melted, wax melts at around 62 degrees C. Do not boil.

Pour into containers and allow to cool before you seal with a lid. For furniture or wood polish use Raw Linseed Oil which has no additives.

Variation: For a cosmetic hand cream use pure sweet almond oil, coconut oil or olive oil.

Tip: If you want a firmer polish you can gently reheat the mix and increase the amount of wax.