



Thimbles, Hooks & More
thimblesandhooks.com

Grammy Gramster's Candles
from
Thimbles, Hooks & More



**We now offer Nature Wax C-3 Soy Wax
All Natural Candles
Hand Poured in
North Dighton, MA**

Creating beautiful things by hand has always been a part of my life that I am proud of. Crochet and sewing are my first love after my children and grandchildren. Yes, I create crochet items to sell but I will only create items that please me. I enjoy creating my own patterns, and dreaming up imaginative ideas. From time to time they work, sometimes they don't. I have been crocheting for over 44 years now. If I am not crocheting, I can be quite creative in the kitchen as well. Always trying new recipes or creating my own. Again, some days are diamonds, some days are rust. Browse our online store for handmade items, some are one of a kind, from beautiful baby afghans and throws to fine art photography and women's and men's apparel and accessories. Check back often as new products are added frequently. You will laugh out loud when you take a peek at my soy Novelty Soy Candles.

Candles Care, Maintenance & Tips

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," – Benjamin Franklin

Remember, expensive and well-made are not always the same thing. You're looking for quality, not money to burn. Grammy Gramster knows how to balance the wick size, wax type, size, and scent to produce a better-quality product. We test burn our candles, especially odd shape, custom containers and container materials. Our wicks are lead free, and our essential and fragrance oils are *phthalate free*.

Candles can be sensitive to extreme cold and heat, it's best to store them between 50°F and 85°F. And be sure not to leave our candles in your car for an extended period of time (particularly on hot days) as they may melt or discolor.

The first burn

in particular is critical: burning your candle for two to three hours on its initial run allows the wax to melt all the way out to the edges of its container. So, best bet is to burn your candle when your time permits. This will ensure that when your wax cools, the surface of the candle will remain even. If tunneling does occur a simple fix is simply done by removing some of the surrounding wax to help the candle melt fully to its edges. Wax also has a ‘memory’, this means that it will sometimes refuse to melt beyond its last point of melting and cooling so burning a candle until the wax melts to its edges is so important, it keeps a consistent burn throughout the life of the candle.

Memory Ring

Preventing memory rings.

As with all candles, the first burn is the most important. To begin, candles should burn one hour for every 1 inch in diameter of the actual candle size. Therefore, a large Jar should burn a minimum of 3 to 4 hours to liquefy the entire top layer of wax. If the wax is not allowed to liquefy or to melt from edge to edge of the jar or tumbler, it will create a “memory ring,” especially if this is the first time the candle is lit. Once a candle has this “memory ring,” it will continue to tunnel and to burn that way for the life of the candle.

Trim the Wick

Why

Each time you want to burn your candle, start by trimming the wick to between 1/8 and 1/4 inches long. First, trimmed wicks will give you a cleaner, brighter burn. Untrimmed wicks are a lot more likely to take on a weird mushroom-esque shape that dulls

and obscures the flame.

It takes patience, but if you melt the wax all the way across every time you burn, the surface of the candle will stay flat and the sides of the jar will stay clean, all the way down until the candle is spent. Try this. Instead of blowing out the wick, use a wick dipper, or, cheaper, use an old wooden match stick to quickly dip the wick in the melted wax, and bring it back up. This will help with the next light and keep the wick waxed. It works.

Keep the flame away from moving air and *always* burn candles well away from drafts, other heat sources, *and anything flammable*. Make sure burning candles *are out of reach of children and pets*. Never leave a burning candle unattended.

I have too many candles, said no one ever. Today, while candles aren't a practical necessity, they can add a masculine or romantic ambiance to any room. I've been a candle user myself for many years, enjoying the steady, but flickering flame while I crochet. Candles, scented or not, can truly be very meditative and thought-provoking.

We Always use Soy Wax. Soy wax is a vegetable wax made from the oil of soybeans. After harvesting, the beans are cleaned, cracked, de-hulled, and rolled into flakes. The oil is then extracted from the flakes and hydrogenated.

The hydrogenation process converts some of the fatty acids in the oil from unsaturated to saturated. This process dramatically alters the melting point of the oil, making it a solid at room temperature. The leftover bean husks are commonly used as animal feed. The U.S. grows the vast majority of the world's soy beans, primarily in Illinois, Iowa, and Indiana. Soy's greatest advantage is that it is completely renewable. While the global reserves of oil shrink and paraffin prices increase, the only limit to the soy supply is how much we choose to grow. The soy that you buy today was likely in the ground less than a year ago. And chances are that same field is growing more soy for the candles to be made in the future. In addition to sustainability, a well-made soy candle will burn cleanly and slowly, much to your delight. While the performance and beauty of soy candles speak for themselves, soy wax is truly a candle makers dream. Soy candles, are eco-friendly grown, sustainable, carbon neutral; the list goes on and on.

Soy candles are wonderful alternatives to lighting paraffin wax candles.

So, that's why they call it Candle Science 101

