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1750 #File Name: B01F7X8UG0 | File size: 33.Mb

From Stackpole Books : Basic Soap Making: All the Skills and Tools You Need to Get Started (How To Basics) by Elizabeth Letcavage (2009-09-15) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Basic Soap Making: All the Skills and Tools You Need to Get Started (How To Basics) by Elizabeth Letcavage (2009-09-15):

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Love the pictures and instructions for additivesBy RinlynI'm new to soap making and I bought this as well as another book. I love the pictures. I also love the step by step instructions for adding oatmeal, colors and fragrances. Very helpful. It also has a good list in the back of characteristics in soap of different oils/butters. It also contains a helpful SAP index and instructions for making your own soap.Cons: Each receipe calls for a different size soap box. I made soap boxes at home last weekend out of wood for the first basic soap receipe, but the next receipe calls for a larger box. The next recipe for an even larger box. That's annoying, I don't want a hobby of making soap boxes. I want a hobby of making soap!Also - for some reason none of the recipes suggested use butters, only oils. I'm not sure if that is so readers don't have to buy a ton of different ingredients or just to keep it simple.Overall, its a keeper and I'm glad I have it to refer to. But I've quickly realized that I need to learn to make my own receipes.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A great starter bookBy Rambling Boho (Tricia)As someone who is just learning to make soap, this book is great. Step-by-step pictures, and very detailed explanations.

Having it laid out, right there in front of you, makes the whole process less intimidating. A few basic recipes are included. I recommend this book if you are interested in cold-process soap making. #housewisereview #RamblingBoho68 of 70 people found the following review helpful. Start making soap within a week!By WiseWomanI love that the book is spiral bound so it lays flat and stays open to the page you need. I love the step by step photographs of the process from beginning to end, including the emphasis on safety. I love that the author includes easily understood equations that allow even a newcomer to create original recipes. Within a few days of receiving this book from I had made my first wooden soap mold and cutter. The author makes it clear that this is not required, but I wanted to! I had just about every ingredient and tool on hand and made my first batch of 4 oil soap, which is now curing and waiting to be shared with family and friends. I plan on making every recipe in the book and then creating my own. LOVE IT LOVE IT