

Instructions for Candle Dipping

1. Place the wax in the melting pot and heat the pot to 70–73 °C in a bain-marie, Fig. 1. The temperature of the wax is decisive for achieving a smooth candle surface. Because of the risk of fire, never melt wax directly in a saucepan.
2. Stir in the desired wax dye (standard quality). Do not add too much: approx. 2–4 g dye for 1 kg wax (to test the colour, pour some liquid wax into a bowl of cold water). Too much dye can adversely affect the way your candle burns. Dyes can be mixed with one another.
3. Decide on the diameter of the candle and select the appropriate wick. Knot a loop at the end (Fig. 2), which will also form the tip of the candle (observe the braiding direction on round wicks, see under “Note” on page 8 of the catalogue).
4. Dip the wick into the liquid wax up to about 1.5 cm below the loop, Fig. 3. The first dipping operation needs to last somewhat longer (approx. 5 seconds), to ensure that the wick fabric is fully impregnated. Hold the wick over the melting pot and let the excess wax drip off and pull the wick straight, Fig. 4.
5. The candle must be allowed to cool (to about 35 °C) after each dipping operation. To test the temperature, hold the candle against your cheek (if there is no perceptible temperature difference, the next dipping operation can commence). It is important to maintain a uniform rhythm during candle dipping: immerse swiftly – wait a short time (approx. 1 second) – remove swiftly – drain – cool – immerse again, and so on. If the candle has cooled down completely due to work being interrupted, the next dipping operation should last somewhat longer (about 5 seconds).
Contrary to the case for beeswax candles, paraffin and paraffin/stearin candles can also be cooled in cold water (at approx. 20 °C) rather than in air. It is then important to dry the candles with a cotton cloth each time.
6. Once the candle has reached the desired diameter, cut off the wax hanging at the bottom of the candle while it is still warm, Fig. 5. Then roll the base of the candle at an angle of 45° while applying slight pressure, Fig. 6. After this, press the candle onto the work surface until it is standing straight. Cut off the loop in the wick before lighting the candle.

Important

Cover the work surface and wear an apron! Check the temperature of the wax with a thermometer that covers a range of 40 to 100 °C.

Warning

Dip candles only with adult supervision. Because of the danger of injury, a candle must be heated right through before being cut through its centre. Cold candles must be dipped an appropriate number of times (depending on their thickness) before being cut. Melting wax in a saucepan or over a naked flame is a fire hazard. Wax vapours can ignite at 180 °C. Never leave candles to burn unattended and always place on a fireproof base.

