

# Betterbee®

Beekeepers Serving Beekeepers

## Tools/Supplies:

- Double Boiler or large container for melting your wax.
- Pouring Pot with spout and handle.
- Wax or Candy thermometer
- Bobby Pins (to hold wicking in place)
- Wicking
- Mold Release Spray
- Wicking Needle
- Rubber Bands

## Polyurethane Candle Mold Instructions

**Tapered tubular molds:** Since darning needles are not quite long enough to wick a standard taper mold, you will want to make a wicking tool or purchase our wicking needle (item code: WN1) To procure your own, simply obtain a thin wire approx. 5" longer than the taper mold and fashion an eye on the end. The flat portion of a wire hanger works perfectly; use a needle nose plier to bend one end into an eye. Place the wicking through the eye, remove the "T" pin on the bottom of the mold and insert the end of the wicking tool in the hole and push up through the mold. Be sure to leave an ample supply of wicking on the bottom of the mold so it will help you to remove the candle from the mold later. If you are concerned the candle will stick in the mold, give each mold a light spray of mold release before pouring.

**TIP:** A paper towel roll works well for holding your taper mold upright. Place the mold onto the tube before pouring the wax.

**Figure Molds:** If your mold has a "T" pin, it is inserted to mark the hole where the wicking will go through. Use a wicking needle to wick your mold. Pull the wick through the mold giving you at least 3" at the top. Leave a substantial length of wick at the base of the mold, then when you pull your cooled candle out; your mold will automatically be re-wicked for your next pouring. Most, but not all candle molds are cut to make removal of the candle easier. Smooth surface candles may not require a cut. For cut molds, use heavy rubber bands to hold the mold together. Place your rubber band around the mold, and then carefully align the cut sides. The more attention you pay to this alignment, the fewer seams you will have on your finished candle. Place the bobby pin on the wicking and move it down to the opening of the mold. Be sure your wick is centered in the candle and don't pull it too tight or you will have problems with how your candle will burn. Give your candle a light spray of mold release.

**Wax Melting:** Because wax is highly flammable, read instructions and have your molds ready before starting the melting process. Cover your work area with freezer paper (wax side up for easier wax removal) and yourself with an apron to protect yourself and clothing from accidental spills. Place wax in the top of the double boiler. Turn heat on low. **NEVER LEAVE WAX UNATTENDED!** The wax will take some time to melt so continue checking the water level. Use the thermometer to check for proper temp. (Paraffin wax 170-180 degrees, beeswax 150-160) before pouring into your molds. When the proper temperature is reached, add your fragrances, essential oils or coloring if desired. Turn off the heat and carefully transfer the wax to your pouring pot.

Pour the wax slowly to prevent air bubbles. Allow the wax to cool and harden completely before attempting to remove your candle from the mold. Cooling times will vary depending upon the size of your mold. When the candle is completely cooled, remove the bobby pin and rubber bands. Gently separate the mold at the seam then pull slowly but firmly on the extra length of wicking. If you have trouble removing the candle from the mold, place in the freezer for 5-10 minutes and the candle will pull away from the mold easier. Be careful, as this will cause tapers to become temporarily brittle and will be very fragile. Pull the candle out and clip the wick, your mold is wicked for the next pouring. If needed, trim the base and/or seams with a paring knife or a hot plate to level off the bottom. Trim the wick at the top of the candle to about ½".

Visit our website at [www.betterbee.com](http://www.betterbee.com) for other fun candle making products and ideas!