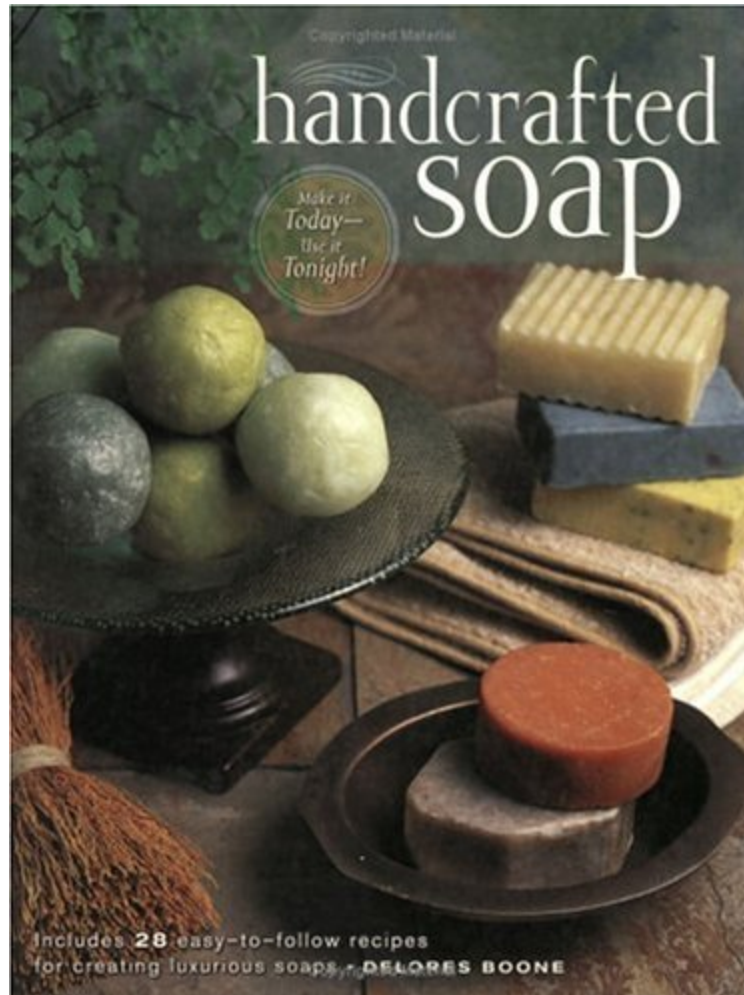


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Handcrafted Soap

Delores Boone

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Delores Boone : Handcrafted Soap before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Handcrafted Soap:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. would recommend this book to any first-time soap maker
By Cynthia Smith
I bought this book in August 2008. After reading it from cover to cover about 10 times I finally got my nerve up to make some soap. It turned out perfectly and I have used it to make numerous batches since. I make it to give as gifts as well as for use in my home. My husband will not use store-bought soap again after using my soap. So, if you are hesitant about making soap get this book, read it and read it until you are comfortable and confident that you understand it and go for it. Be sure to follow ALL the safety precautions because they are not exaggerated at all. Lye can hurt you and/or can be fatal. The hot soap can burn you so use caution when making it. Delores lists many distributors of fragrance oils, essential oils, soap-making equipment, in her book so you won't have any trouble finding

supplies to make your soap. You will love this book no matter what anybody says. She has made it all easy to understand and has many recipes to follow to make wonderful soap. My favorite is the Oatmeal, Milk and Honey and everybody I have given a bar to just LOVES it too !! If you are serious about starting soap making as a hobby or for extra income, this is the book you need. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By vicky Good resource, complete info 14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Great Book But "Fluffs" Over Some Topics By A Customer I love the pictures and the way the information is presented and would buy it for that alone... I double checked some of the recipes and found the lye amounts to be correct. I especially liked the authors way of incorporating milk into hot processed soaps. I would definitely purchase this book again.... YET!!! I thought her introduction was a bit negative and less than motivating about the joys of soapmaking. Her comparison of Cold-Process to Hot-Process was a bit negative also. I also don't agree with the authors information about oils.. I feel there could have been more research done. She mentions that Olive Oil is a "neutral" oil... I definitely don't agree! I have found it to be very "active" and conditioning. And, due to the low iodine content, Olive Oil effectively makes a rock hard bar upon curing. The Oil Characteristics guide was misleading to me also... A waste of my time. I have found Canola Oil to be highly conditioning to almost that of Olive Oil. There is very little mention of curing the soap. Crock Pot temperatures vary along with the abilities and experience of the individual soapmaker. Most hot-processors make soap and let it cure about a week, unless they've tested for neutrality. She doesn't mention a whole lot of testing for this or even viable PH ranges for handcrafted soap. Because of this, I question the ability to make the soap that day and use it later that same day. I would personally increase cooking time a bit to insure soap neutrality. But again this is all my opinion! I did like the book because there is so little out there focusing on the hot-process method. I would purchase this again, and feel it's one for the library, yet don't think it deserves the 5 stars because although an experienced soapmaker would be able to fill in the informational gaps, I wish there was just a bit more for the "new" soaper. I'm a tough judge yet still rated this book pretty darn good!

Soap making became popular in the mid-1990s, but that was before Dolores Boone came up with the hot-processed method, the most talked-about, most requested technique on the Internet. Now, soap making has become an accessible hobby for any crafter. With this book, readers can begin making their own soap using this new hot-processed technique method with simple melt-and-pour soap bases found at many craft stores. Step-by-step photos and detailed instructions provide readers with everything they need to know to make soap "from scratch." Beginning soap makers as well as those who have made soap by other methods and are looking for faster, easier and better methods will want to have this book.

From Booklist Soap-making books come and go, many of them focused on saving money or getting back to basics. Washington-based entrepreneur and teacher Boone offers a third option: a high-quality and aesthetically pleasing product. In her introduction, she refutes the contention that soap making is a messy and boring process simply because of the outcome--that handmade cleansers are creamier, more luxurious, and produce a squeaky-clean surface. In fact, all her instructions are designed to encourage an artisan output: explicit data about the equipment and ingredients involved (lye, distilled water, and oils/fats); detailed information and step-by-step color photographs of methods; 28 recipes with design and process topics (e.g., don't add colorants to milk soaps); and others. Along the way, she refutes some long-held myths--for instance, that all castile soap is 100 percent olive oil and that handmade soaps won't work well for Fido. At the end are charts galore--oil properties, lye and water calculation, oil characteristics, essential oil blending characteristics, conversion chart, glossary, and resources. Barbara Jacobs Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved About the Author Dolores Boone co-owns with her husband Boone's Lather Soap Company, which sells soaps and other toiletries. She teaches soap making classes for the sky Valley School System's adult education classes, as well as private lessons and demonstrations throughout the state of Washington.