

BEESWAX, SUGGESTED USES

- 1) **Candles:** There are many techniques to make beeswax candles; but, I suggest the use of silicon rubber molds. Melt the wax in a microwave (in an old container that will not be reused for anything other than melting wax) let it cool for 15 to 20 minutes before pouring into the molds. Let it firm up for a few hours then take it out of the mold.
- 2) **Shoe and Boot laces:** Run your lace (or at least the top of the lace that is used for tying) over a small block of beeswax. When the laces are tied they will now hold better and longer.
- 3) **Coating Hockey stick tape:** I always coat the tape on my hockey stick blade to give it better water proofing and a bit better puck control.
- 4) **Furniture polish (version 1):** Mix one part beeswax with 3 parts olive oil and melt them together. I use a microwave but a double boiler is better. Always watch it carefully because beeswax is flammable and never let it boil. After melting you can optionally add any essential oils of your choice. Let it cool for 15 to 20 minutes before pouring into its final container. I would recommend this type of polish for stained and finished wood products.
- 5) **Furniture polish (version 2):** Mix equal parts of beeswax, turpentine and linseed oil. Please be aware of all the product warnings on the turpentine and linseed, they still apply when used in this polish. And pay the extra for real turpentine, don't get a substitute. Heat in the same way as version 1, mix all the ingredients and stir well. If too thin, add more beeswax; if too thick, add more solvent. I would recommend this polish for direct application to unfinished woods.
- 6) **Soap:** The internet has a multitude of recipes with detailed instructions just search on Beeswax soap recipes
- 7) **Lip Balm:** The internet has a multitude of recipes with detailed instructions just search on Beeswax lip balm recipes
- 8) **Camp Fire starters:** This is a guaranteed way to start your camp fire every time with just one match. My Campfire starters are made from old egg cartons, drier lint and beeswax. The wax I use is from old brood frames (which is poorer quality for other uses, and usually very dark). I fill each egg cup with drier lint, then top them off with the melted wax; when all is cooled you light the paper on the egg carton which then spreads to the wax and the lint. Guaranteed to burn for about 20 minutes. Make sure you have your kindling and firewood ready before striking that match. Instead of lint you could use wood shavings as well.
- 9) **Garden tools:** Put on rakes and shovels to prevent from rusting.
- 10) **Waxing Thread:** Slide your sewing thread over a chunk of beeswax. It will aid in threading the needle and assist in preventing knots in your thread.
- 11) **Encaustic Painting:** This art technique uses heated beeswax with coloured pigments to apply to a canvas or wooden base.
- 12) **Paw Wax:** To help keep winter salt out of the paws of dogs and cats. The internet has a multitude of recipes with detailed instructions just search on Beeswax paws

For more ideas and more detail, I suggest you browse the internet for more info on any of these topics.