

# Gel Candle News © Volume 1



Lynn A. Thomas

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Gel Candle News ©: Volume 1

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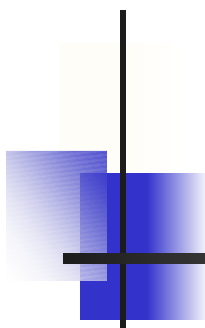
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We strive to offer unbiased information to the Gel community...  
and to offer equal opportunities to all Gel suppliers and designers alike.  
We invite YOU, the novice and the pro, to share your experiences, tips and techniques.  
[Click here today... Thanks!](#)

**NOTE:**

- **Be certain that you understand** the precautions in making any gel candle design, in using any gel candle procedures and in using the gel candles.
- If you have any questions... contact the author or the author via the editor for additional information.
- The opinions expressed by the authors and advertisers are not necessarily those of this site, the editors, Lynn A. Thomas, Net Partners Inc, Net Partners Publishing corporate directors, officers and employees.
- Opinions & design ideas expressed are not necessarily those of this publication, website, editor or company.
- We are not endorsing any product or company.
- **WARNING!** It is up to YOU the candle maker to TEST TEST TEST each design prior to distribution as sales or gifts. We do not recommend or endorse the use of flammable items, dead sea creatures, or real food items in gel candles. If you choose to design with such items, as in any design, it is up to YOU to ensure that the design safe for the end user.
- Always provide instructional warnings to end user, especially to not leave any burning candle unattended.
- Before lighting any candles, review safety precautions at:  
<http://www.candles.org/UseAndSafety/candlesafetytips.htm>
- Be certain that you understand the steps in making a design and using the candles.
- All pictures and references to food are to "non-edible" items made of non-food (wax, glass, etc) components.
- [Important Book & Gel Candle Updates](#)
- [Disclaimer](#)
- If you would like to comment on or ask questions about any article, please email:  
[editor@howtomakegelcandles.com](mailto:editor@howtomakegelcandles.com)

Welcome to the March edition of  
Gel Candle News© Volume 1  
[www.HowToMakeGelCandles.com](http://www.HowToMakeGelCandles.com)  
Gel Candle News© Newsletter



**How to test a Fragrance Oil** for use in your gel candles.

It seems that the majority of problems & disappointments in the creation of gel candles is in the use of Fragrance Oils (FO). Too much fragrance cannot only cloud the gel but can cause the candle's gel to catch fire. Be careful not to overuse the FO in your gel creations.

A fragrance that is non-polar is required. It is important that the FO is oil based and contains no water, alcohol or glycerin. When ordering FO be sure to tell your supplier that you will be using the fragrance oil in the making of Gel Candles.

If you already have some FO on hand and would like to know if it would be compatible with the gel. According to Penreco, there are two tests to determine if your FO is non-polar.

Test one: blend 25% FO to 75% mineral oil. Test two: blend 75% FO to 25% mineral oil.

If the mixture stays clear and does not separate--- you may be in luck. If it clouds or separates then it would indicate that it contains polar components and is not recommended for your gel candles.

For additional information about fragrance oil see:

<http://www.howtomakegelcandles.com>

For suppliers see our resources at:

<http://www.howtomakegelcandles.com/resources.asp>

**ALL PICTURES AND REFERENCES ARE TO "NON-EDIBLE" ITEMS  
MADE WITH NONFOOD WAX or GLASS COMPONENTS.**

**Editor's Note: Be certain that you understand the steps in making the designs and using the candles. Questions? Comments? Please email: [editor@howtomakegelcandles.com](mailto:editor@howtomakegelcandles.com)**

Design Idea:

**St. Patrick's Day is drawing near...  
and many Gellers are busy making  
their holiday candles.**

**We asked Patti Smith from [BioMax BodyWorks](#)  
for an "Irish" design idea -- and she gave us TWO:**



### **GREEN IRISH BEER CANDLES AND DECORATED IRISH IVY BOWL CANDLES**

As with each holiday, we are challenged for presentation of the new and unique novelty and gift idea.

How about a **Green Irish Beer Stein**? Using Irish Crème fragrance oil... simply dye the gel a great shade of Kelley Green, and pour into a heavy beer stein leaving about 2 inches top headspace. Then you need to create the white 'head'. Melt a piece of wax, easily found in the grocery store, canning section. Add a few stearic flakes to whiten and give better consistency. Once melted, add just a touch of scenting oil. As the wax begins to cool, it will start to 'skin-over'... as the skin forms, stir with a fork creating 'clumps'. Lift the clumps and lay on the top of the cooled gel candle (remember to leave the wick long enough to raise above the 'white head'. Keep stirring the wax in the pan and lifting more and more clump-loads until you have built at least an inch or so... allow the nooks and grannies to fill in but leave it looking fluffy too. Then take a pretty Irish theme ribbon with a piece of shamrock wire tinsel to wrap around the handle... add your appropriate candle caution stickers and label with your company name and watch the smiles... just make sure the St. Patty's Partiers don't try to drink it!! It will look THAT real.

A second idea is an **Irish Ivy Bowl**. Pour Kelley green sand about a third of the height of the candle to give a nice green-colored base. You can also mix some white sand on one side and just 'shimmy' slightly to get great sand design from the two colors on the viewable side-angle. Then pour the rest of the candle with a lighter shade of green gel. Remember to add some twinkle sparkles to create the reflection of millions of twinkle lights in the body of the candle. Next drop some beads or other foil confetti(s) of your choice that have the St. Pat's theme..... Next find a non- flammable Irish shamrock, pin or novelty item.... Wait for the gel to cool until semi-gelled. Drop the embeddable down the side of the ivy bowl to create the 'front' of your candle.... you can use more than one if you wish. Use an ice pick to help center the item where you want it. The incision of the gel will self-heal as long as the candle isn't too cool when you drop the embed. Then take a piece of wire shamrock tinsel to wrap around the scallop of the bowl. After the candle has cooled and gelled... you can pour some white wax beads on the top to bring the green and white theme to surface. Cover with a clear lid and you have a very professional finish, and an EASY sales item!

Additional Gel Candle Ideas and Information on How to Make, Market and Sell Gel Candles at:  
<http://www.howtomakegelcandles.com>

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## Candle Trivia



Did You Know:

During the days of Colonial America, candles were considered too precious to waste. Many of the settlers sparingly used the candles that they brought with them from Europe. To conserve their candle supply, most work had to be done during daylight hours or by light of the hearth fire.

In large towns some colonists purchased their candles at a handler's shop. But for most, these ready-made candles were too expensive a luxury.

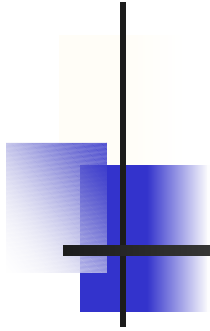
During the Spring and Fall the women labored for days in candle making. In large pots over the open fire, they would cook the animal fat and grease that they had collected for many months. Once the grease melted it was spooned into tin candle molds. Then a rod holding cords of twisted hemp was placed in the candle mold. Once the candles hardened, they were put on a rack to dry.

Besides candles, many early colonists used a Betty Lamp. Betty Lamps were an ancient Roman device, which was a plain tin cup, which hung from the wall by a nail and was filled with animal fat or fish oil. While the lamp did not give off much light, it was quite foul smelling!

Happy St. Pat's & Happy Spring to one and all.

Till next time...

**Welcome to the April Edition of  
Gel Candle News© Volume 1  
[www.HowToMakeGelCandles.com](http://www.HowToMakeGelCandles.com)  
Gel Candle News© Newsletter**



**Broken Candle/Broken Hearted  
By Lynn Thomas**

One of my son's friends asked me to make her a terrarium candle. I made it with a base of river rock, with a ceramic frog sitting on the rocks. I layered the bottom gel around the rock green, then clear midway up and then pale blue for the sky. (I liked it so much, I had a hard time parting with it.). She cherished it. Then one day, when she came home from school, she found her beloved candle shattered on her floor. (The dog may have knocked it off the shelf -- who knows).

She was broken hearted. She brought it to me in a paper bag. It was so sad. The gel was covered with shattered slivers of broken glass.

I very carefully removed the glass pieces and removed the old wick. I pulled out the rocks from the bottom, and placed them and a new wick in a new container. Then I sliced each layer with a knife and reheated them individually, and then re-poured the new candle.

It turned out great, she was very pleased, and I found it to be a new creative experience.

It just goes to prove... you can't mess up. The gel is so forgiving.

Get creative ... Go for it!

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## What Can I Embed?

By Lynn Thomas

People are always asking "Can I embed {this} into the candle?"

One of the easiest ways to determine this is to think:

If I held a lit match/flame to this item, what would happen?

Would it smoke? (Plastic, etc.)

Would it melt? (Candy, resin, etc.)

Would the paint/color bleed? (Certain painted items, etc.)

Would it flame up? (Pinecones, cinnamon, etc.)

Would it explode? (Golf balls, etc.)

Would it stink? (Rubber, etc.)

Would it bloat? (Starfish, seahorses, etc.)



It is not advisable to embed plastic, acrylic, resin, wood, cloth or flammable items such as pine cones.

It's safest to stay with items that won't be affected by the flame: glass, marbles, crystals, shells, certain types of ceramics, metal, river rock, natural stone and fish gravel.

If you choose to use other embed items, keep them close to the inner walls of the glass and away from the flame. One technique is to thread a glass bead onto the wick above the flammable items. As the candle burns, when the wick hits the bead, it snuffs the flame out.

For ideas on what and how to embed, see Chapters 9 & 10 in the How To Make Gel Candles eBook available at: <http://www.howtomakegelcandles.com>

For suppliers see our resources at: <http://www.howtomakegelcandles.com/resources.asp>

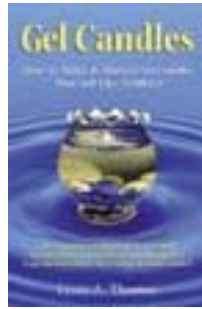
**This is a great book about gel candle making. We could not have been more pleased with Lynn's book. What we knew about gel candles before purchasing this book would have fit on the head of a pin.**

**Thanks to this book, my sister and I now own our own candle business. We continue to use [How to Make & Market Gel Candles That Sell Like Wildfire!](#) for reference and all of the information is right on target with everything we continue to learn. Thank you, Lynn, for giving all of us this great tool. We have learned so much. ~ Donna Welch, The Treasure Garden**

**Thank you for your wonderful comments! Your appreciation of the book has made all of the research, writing and editing worthwhile.  
Thank you so very much.**

**More testimonials at:**

**<http://www.howtomakegelcandles.com/testimonials.asp>**



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