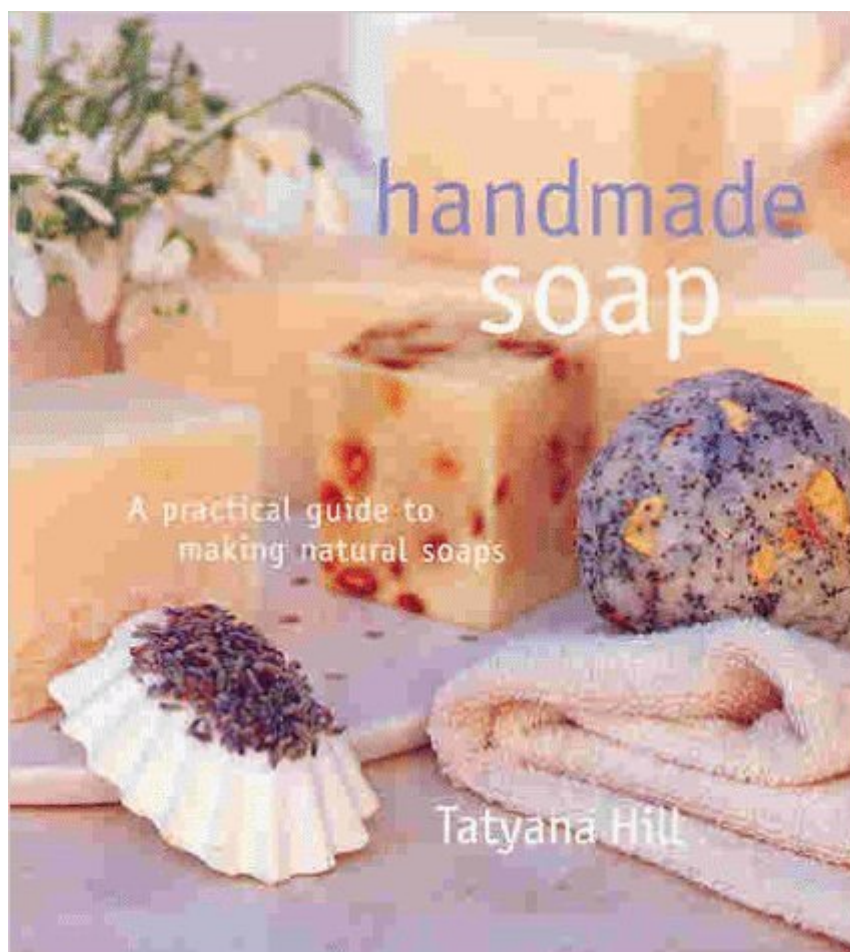


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Handmade Soap: A Practical Guide To Making Natural Soaps



Synopsis

In this book you will find the inspiration and know how to make natural yet elegant soaps. This book is a perfect introduction to the art of natural soap making with step by step instructions and photographs.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (18 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

A very artistic book with 15 vegetable oil-based recipes. No synthetic ingredients are used in these unusual and luxurious cold process soaps. A beautiful, hand-milled seaweed soap is included. Excellent color photographs throughout, with step-by-step instructions for basic soapmaking. Troubleshooting advice is provided, yet this book is not for beginners. None of the projects are inexpensive and all of them are labor-intensive as shown. Familiarity with essential oils is required due to occasional use of potential irritants such as clove, cinnamon and benzoin. However, these recipes are a welcome relief from the humdrum stuff that's normally seen. Any unacceptable additives can easily be changed by experienced soapers. The only other recipe book that doesn't bore me is British as well: "the handmade soap book" by Melinda Coss. Also sold by .

This is the most unique and interesting book on handmade soap I have read. The recipes are all innovative and original and the pictures are the best. The book also successful in providing helpful step by step how to pictures that none of the other books I have seen provide. Hill's book is a welcome change from the various others that are copies of one another or seem to take one recipe

and duplicate it from one page to the next with a few slight changes on sent or colour. The recipes are also 100% natural which I found refreshing. I would also like to refute another review from a soap maker from San Francisco that is more of an attack on the style of soap that Hill produces than a valid criticism. Hill's soap is a specific original style placing emphasis on natural ingredients as well as high emphasis the decorative presentation of the soap. As a soap maker I have produced soap successfully with even more botanical matter than Hill suggests with great skin conditioning results. If soap is dried and cured properly bacteria will not result any more than it would in a basic soap. The comment about clogging up drains from botanical matter is preposterous! Only small amounts of additives (oatmeal for example) come off of a bar of soap with each use and can wash easily down the waste pipes (far greater amounts of solid waste go down our kitchen and toilet waste pipes every day.) Perhaps the Californian just is not used to this innovative style of English soap making? As Hill is in a position as a professional soap maker with her obviously successful soap company Savonnerie that most of us would love to be in, she must be doing something right!

BRAVO

I am continually drawn to this book. For those of us that need to create more than just a basic soap, this is a wonderful resource. Three basic cold process recipe bases are provided... the concept behind each recipe is: pure/natural. Yes, much of the soap is ideal for gift-giving with whole cloves pressed into the surface of one, gold leaf rubbed onto another, but some of us like to be cleaned luxuriously...that is the appeal for me. Soapmaking experience is required, I feel. If you have an artistic soul this book will encourage you to create. I only wish it were a longer book.

Handmade Soap by Tatyana Hill There are three basic soap recipes given in this book and 14 variations. Measurements are in both metric and American Standard.-Note: while I have not tried any of these variations, some of them do sound interesting. Ms. Hill has a listing of nine natural colorants, but she does not explain what these colorants will do in a finished soap. Safety issues are dealt with fairly well, but I personally wouldn't recommend using vinegar to clean lye flakes off of your skin. Rinse well with running water, but using vinegar in a lye flake that is sitting on naked skin will hurt more than the lye bead by itself. Use the vinegar to clean up lye on your counters, not your skin. In the back of the book there is a short list of suppliers in the UK, USA, and Australia. It is not a big list, but it is a place to start. Overall, an ok book, but it is a bit lacking in information.

As a soap maker I really loved this book. I've probably read all the soap books available on the

market. This book has by far the best creative projects and is filled with lovely stylish pictures. It is an inspiration and really makes you want to make soap. Hill's book is hard bound and over all very elegant, yet is surprisingly the lowest priced soap making book I've come across. It would be nice to make some of your own soaps and give the book as a present along with them. I did this recently and it was really appreciated, because the person who gets the gift understands the effort going into your soap. The book is also clear informative. I bought my first soap book about 6 years ago and I wish this one had been around then. I bought the most recommended soap making book and I was so confused I nearly gave up, before developing my own recipe through trial and error. If you really want to know about a lot of scientific jargon, this book is probably not for you. For most normal home purposes Hill gives you the basic information you will need as a beginner, with simple "normal people's" language. The book has a quick bullet point format, rather than getting too technical. Again I wish had this as reference when I started. She also answers all the questions I had as a totally bewildered beginner in a section in the back. with simple "normal peoples" language. She also gives honest direct safety information and suggestions. *If you do need more detailed information about the chemistry side, you can always get one of the larger more technical words only books.

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