

# How to Make a Candle 🕯️ with Upcycled Finds Resend



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Crafting starts on a Goodwill store shelf.



## DIY CANDLE PROJECT

Candles never seem to go out of style. With help from Sarah Ramberg of the upcycling blog [Sadie Seasingoods](#), skip buying another expensive candle and create your own from a thrifted container with this 12-step guide!

## **CRAFT SUPPLY LIST**

- Metal container from Goodwill (small to medium size is the easiest to work with)
- Candle-making supplies including soy wax flakes, wicks and candle fragrance oil (if you want a scented candle)
- Wax-melting cup and/or double boiler (pot for water and metal or glass bowl for melting wax)
- Hot glue gun
- Scissors
- Coffee stirrers, bamboo skewers or chopsticks
- Tape
- Ketchup (if cleaning/polishing a brass container)
- Paint stirrer or wooden spoon
- Charms and jewelry-making tools (small pliers, jump rings, etc.) – Optional, if decorating the exterior of your candle holder

## **INSTRUCTIONS**

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1. Select your future candle holder at Goodwill. I really wanted a brass container! If you're having trouble finding one, most glass or heavier ceramic containers work, too.



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2. Once you have your container selected, gather the remainder of your craft supplies from the list above.





3. Since I was using brass, I needed to clean it properly before repurposing it. And believe it or not, ketchup is an AMAZING brass cleaner. After removing the price tag, I simply rubbed ketchup all over the container with my hands. Yes, I'm serious. It sounds weird but it works!

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4. Rinse the ketchup off and dry your container. Before doing anything else, fill your candle holder with wax chips. Leave at least 1/2" of space at the top. Dump the chips in the bowl or melting cup. Now, fill your container another time—just about 1/3 to 1/2 of the way. Then, dump those chips in the melting cup and set aside. The extra wax accounts for the air spaces between chips.

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5. Now you've measured your wax, it's time to set the wick! Heat up your hot glue gun and use a healthy dollop to secure your wick to the bottom of your candle holder. Then, use coffee stirrers (or something similar, so long as they're longer than your candleholder is wide) to hold the wick upright.





6. Per the directions on your soy wax flakes, melt them in a double boiler on your stovetop. Use precaution when boiling water to not burn yourself. Use a wooden paint stirrer or something similar to stir the wax periodically. Once the wax is completely melted, you're ready to pour your candle!



7. If you are using candle fragrance, follow the directions to add fragrance oil now before pouring the wax into your candle holder.

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8. Carefully pour the molten wax into the candle holder, avoiding your wick support system. Again, leave at least  $\frac{1}{2}$ " of space at the top.





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Seasongoods*

9. Once poured, it's best to just leave your candle alone (don't move it) for several hours. This will allow the wax to harden with a nice even surface (i.e., no sloshed wax on the sides).

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10. Once the wax has completely hardened and your candleholder is cool to the touch (i.e., the next day), trim the wick (1/2" above the wax surface) with scissors and add charms if you want! I found some charms on clearance at a craft store, but why not check out the jewelry at Goodwill?



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11. With my jewelry-making pliers and some larger jump rings, I simply dangled the necklace pendants on the handles of my candle holder.

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12. Now you can enjoy your fabulous new candle in your home or give it as a gift.

## Show Us Your Candle

We'd love to see what kind of interesting candle holders you find at Goodwill. To show them off, tag [@sadieseasongoods](#) and [@goodwillsp](#) on [Instagram](#) or [Facebook](#).

Happy Crafting!

**LEARN MORE**

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