



How to make Eco-friendly Beeswax Wraps

(notes from Lin's workshop – October 2019)

These eco-friendly re-useable wraps can be used as an alternative to aluminium foil, clingfilm or plastic bags for wrapping, covering and storing food. The beauty of these wraps is that they can be wiped with cool water and detergent and used again. Once the wax eventually wears off, the fabric can be washed and transformed into a fresh wax wrap.

There are a few methods for making Beeswax Wraps. Lin recommended [Crafty Patti's online guide: 'How to make Beeswax Wraps – 4 ways to do it'](#). Lin demonstrated the ironing method.

What you will need:

- an iron
- two sheets of greaseproof paper
- an old towel
- old saucepan, wooden spoon and paintbrush
- pure cotton fabric, cut to the size of the wrap you need
- pure beeswax*, soya or coconut oil (approx 60g for a 25cm square cloth) – solid or pellets
- pine rosin** (approx 30g) – solid to be sure of ingredients, but powdered available
- jojoba oil – or another food-safe oil (approx 5g) - to stop the wrap becoming brittle

* Lin suggested a ratio of 2 beeswax:1 rosin. Suggested ingredient weights per cloth size adapted from beeswax wrap making instructions on [Face Down Waste blog](#)

** some people can have an allergic reaction to pine rosin, so if you have any concerns, be sure to investigate before using this ingredient

1. Assemble ingredients, and grate wax or resin blocks if necessary ready for mixing



2. Cut fabric to size, and lay it between two sheets of greaseproof paper (on an old towel and heatproof surface)



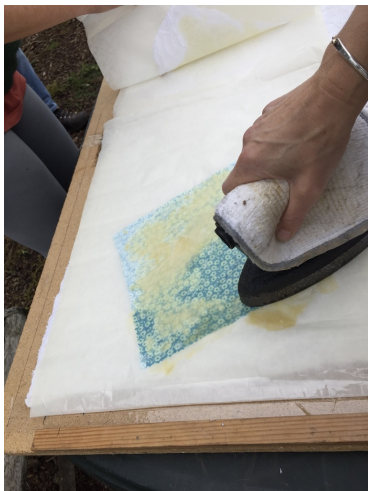
3. Mix the beeswax, resin and oil and heat gently



4. Once melted, paint a thin coating onto the fabric – remembering that the wax will spread to the edges when melted



5. Cover the coated fabric with the second sheet of greaseproof paper and iron to melt the wax mixture into the fabric



6. Once the wax has fully 'dissolved' into the fabric, quickly peel the paper off. Once cooled, the wax cover will be ready to mould



Lin's Top tips:

- use a little oil to get any wax off your fingers when making the wraps
- used wax-covered greaseproof paper can be used for fire-lighters
- most ingredients can be purchased online

Useful sites & Local Suppliers:

- Crafty Patti's guide to making beeswax wraps: https://youtu.be/6_bsxrqAF-s
- <https://www.recycledevon.org/blog/how-to-make-your-own-beeswax-wraps>
- Thornes of Stockbridge: <https://www.thorne.co.uk>

