

Candle Magick - Some pointers

by Emer



1. Fancy shaped candles are often unnecessary - a plain taper will do just fine. Color is more important than the shape of the candle. It is your intent that shapes your magick.
2. Color is very powerful energy, so choose your color/s carefully. Use either the color of the element that best represents your goal or check [Color Correspondences](#) for the appropriate color. Use your intuition - if you *feel* a particular color is best for your purpose, regardless of it's traditional use, use it. Intuition is an important part of any magick.
3. If you're doing a spell that calls for the candle to completely burn down at one time, you may use a short candle. It's okay to cut the bottom off a longer taper.
4. Extinguishing a flame: Never blow it out - this is considered disrespectful of the Spirit of Fire. Use a snuffer or the blade of your athame (or knife.) You may even want to thank the Fire Spirit for its presence before extinguishing the flame.
5. When doing candle magick, always use a new candle, so as not to bring in confusing energies from another spell. For a sabbat or esbat ritual, again it's best to use new candles.
6. Disposing of the leftovers. Candles are seldom burned down completely; and so there's the problem of what to do with the leftovers. If you're doing a banishing spell, bury the candle stub and drippings off your property. (Urban witches - if you have no place to bury it, a public trash receptacle will work.) If you are trying to bring something to you (such as prosperity, healing, etc.) bury the leftovers on your property. If you have no place to bury anything, a potted plant or a pot of soil will work in a pinch. You can always carry the leftovers with you, as an amulet, or put in a medicine bag. Use your imagination.
7. Lighting the candle: Some believe that a candle should never be lit using a match. Matches contain sulphur, which calls in Mars energy, and this may not be compatible with what you're trying to do. Others believe that the actual lighting of the match is part

of the ritual and would never use anything else. Do what feels right to you. I have a special lighter that I use to light the altar candle. All other candles are usually lit from that candle.

8. You may inscribe your candle with names or symbols to further enhance your magickal working. Runes, astrological symbols, whatever you like. Use your athame and make the inscribing of the candle part of the ritual.

9. Dressing the candle, or anointing it with oil. This adds extra oomph to your working. There are variations, but this works best for me.

I use a vegetable oil base with some essential oils added. See [Anointing Oils](#). Put some oil in the palm of your hand - you won't need much - and rub your hands together to distribute the oil over both palms.

Now, grasp the candle in the middle with both hands. Your power hand is near the top end, and your other hand (receptive) is on the bottom end. With your power hand, rub the candle from middle to tip, twisting the candle, then place your hand back in the middle. Repeat with your receptive hand to the bottom. Repeat this procedure until you feel your candle is fully charged. Of course, (need I say it?) keep your goal in mind during the whole procedure.

At this point, you may roll the candle in the appropriate crushed herbs, if you wish.

10. Empowerment. Very important. During each step of preparation - inscriptions, dressing, etc. - keep clearly in mind your goal. See this as if it's already happening. See this energy pouring into your candle, to be released when you light the flame. If you want, you can use a verbal affirmation or chant. This also helps focus the energies. Note: a chant doesn't have to rhyme. This is good to know if you, like me, are terrible at poetry.

11. The spell: Have a clear goal in mind. If you've written your own spell, be precise in what you want to have happen. If you're using someone else's spell, be sure it fits your purpose.

12. Think first. What could possibly happen when the spell is completed and it works? What if it backfires? Be sure it will harm none; and this includes you.

13. Focus: Focus on your goal as if it has already happened, for it has. Know that before you ask, it has already been answered. A favorite phrase of mine:

*And so it shall be,
As it already is.*

Color Correspondences

by Emer

Yellow

Element: Air. A mental color. Mental clarity, accuracy. To obtain knowledge, concentration, focus, memory, imagination and creativity, inspiration, persuasion, attraction and breaking down of mental blocks. Mercury energy.

Gold

Solar energy, the God. To attract money (you must earn it), to expedite money coming to you but not here yet. Masculine energy and power. Fast luck. Honors and fame. Rich, deep (but not bright) yellow may be used if you don't have gold.

Orange

Prosperity (lasting), success and good luck, stamina. Business success. Fun.

Brown

Actually a dark orange. Earth energy. Animals, elementals. As with orange, use to attract prosperity and business success.

Peach

Happiness, joy, harmony. To *lighten* a mood.

Red

Fire element. Mars energy. A physical color. Health, strength, virility, courage, passion, and to increase magnetism.

Pink

Love, friendship, romance, emotional and spiritual healing, affections.

Magenta

A high Vibrational color. Fast action, to change luck. Use with other colors to quicken their action.

Purple

Expansion in all areas - spiritual and mundane. Knowledge of higher realms, spirituality, wisdom, protection, spirit contact, divination, psychic abilities, hidden knowledge, meditation. Control of energies, magick.

Indigo

Meditation, psychic abilities, subconscious. Use to stop situations or people, or to stop another's magick.

Blue

Water element, the emotions. Healing, peace, calm, understanding, harmony and spiritual inspiration.

Light Blue

More spiritual than blue due to addition of white. Peace, oneness and understanding, gentleness.

Turquoise

A combination of green and blue and possessing qualities of both. Healing, peace, gentle growth. Transformation.

Green

Earth element, Earth Mother. Stability, fertility, money and prosperity (quick to come, quick to go, often unearned), growth, luck, healing (do not use where you do not want growth, as with a tumor.) Faeries and plants (communication with and magick,) abundance.

White

Color of spirituality. Raises vibrations, repels negative energies. Emotional healing, balancing, contact with spirit guides, wholeness, purity, truth. Balance of all colors (contains all colors.) May be substituted for any other color.

Silver

Lunar energy, the Goddess. Use to develop psychic abilities, intuition. A very light grey may be used if you don't have silver.

Grey

Neutral color. Use to neutralize negative or unwanted energy in a passive, non-destructive fashion. Both absorbs and repels.

Black

Represents all colors. Protective, binding and repelling. To end an unwanted situation, thoughts or magick. The subconscious.

Note: You'll notice that I've listed both black and white as containing or representing all colors. Here's why:

In light, white is made up of all the colors of light, while black is the absence of light.

In pigment or paint, white is the absence of color. But if you mix all the colors together, theoretically you'll get black.

When white is added to a color, it raises the vibrations of that color. For instance---Red is a passionate, lustful color. Add white and you get pink. Pink is a higher expression of red, producing romantic love and affection. White also seems to add gentleness to a color.

Adding grey subdues the action of the color.

Black does the same, but also darkens it (obviously.) For instance--- Blue is calm and peaceful, but a dark dull blue is almost tranquilizing.

As with any magickal working, use your intuition when it comes to choosing the right color. If you feel a color I have listed here is not right for what you want to do, change it.

Colors For The Sabbats

Imbolc

[Candlemas] - Feb. 2

Earth Mother stirs in her sleep, preparing for spring. First of the spring festivals. Colors are soft, airy, pastel - white, lavender.

Ostara

[Spring Equinox] - about March 21

Spring and the second spring festival. Pale, light colors - green, yellow, pink, white.

Beltane

May 1

Third spring rite. The growing season. Light colors - greens, blues, yellow, pink. Traditional is red and white to symbolize a woman's blood when she loses her virginity. Other traditional colors are white and green to symbolize the end of winter and the beginning of summer.

Midsummer

[Summer Solstice, Litha] - about June 20

The God is at his peak. This is the longest day; the Sun begins to wane now. Strong, robust summer colors - greens, reds, yellow or gold.

Lughnasadh

[Lammas] - August 1

First of three harvest festivals. Earthy colors - yellows, browns, gray and gold.

Mabon

[Autumn Equinox] - about September 20

Second harvest rite. Earthy colors, but deeper - golds, orange, browns and red.

Samhain

October 31

The darkness before the birth of the light (the God) at Yule. The last harvest rite. Black and orange.

Yule

[Winter Solstice] - about December 25

The birth of the sun (God.) The shortest day of the year; the sun begins to wax now.
Festive colors of red, green, silver, gold and white.

The Colors of the Goddess

White - the Maiden, new moon, waxing moon.

Red - the Mother, full moon. (White is often used to represent the full moon.)

Black - the Crone, dark moon, waning moon.

The Colors of the God

Gold - the Son

Green - the Father

Black - the Sage

Note: I have found very little information on the stages of the God, and all of it differing.
This is what works for me. Feel free to use other colors if you want.