

My advice on using LETTER SEALING WAX CANDLES.

What I do is have a household candle burning all the time to start me off.

1. Until you are accurate enough you should trace a pencil line around the seal to give you something to aim at and fill in.
2. Tilt your lit candle down about 20 degrees, which is a little less than when writing with a pen. Too steep and it melts too fast and makes soot and smoke. Initially I made a drip outline first and work my way to the centre. A thick centre will help with deep impressions. If you find the wax is dripping in flames, change to my preferred style of application below.
3. While keeping in contact with the paper, draw circles as molten wax flows (or smudges) into your outline. Your paper will only be 2 or 3 mm away from the burning wick, and will not catch fire. At this distance it is like colouring-in with a melting crayon and is easier to obtain a perfect circle, and in some ways quicker than waiting on drops.
4. Once you have enough hot wax on the paper blow out the candle and wait for one more drip, tip it upright and use the bottom of the candle to stir the wax evenly. This rids any soot & air bubbles, and allows you to modify the shape slightly. This must not take more than 5 seconds as this wax hardens quickly.
5. Moisten the brass seal by either lick it lightly, or rest it on a damp paper towel, and centre it into the wax allowing room for a border. Count up to 10 and lift it straight up, if it sticks wait a little longer for the wax to harden. It maybe wasn't moistened enough or cold enough. If you let the brass seal warm up it is likely to stick to the wax, so don't keep holding it and rest it on ice during your mass production mode.
6. Relight the wax candle with the household one and repeat until finished.

N.B. Metallic wax burns hotter, tends to flame, & takes a little longer to harden.

You can use a coloured stamp pad to highlight the contours in a darker wax. ⇒



N.B. Colour seepage may happen when using thin paper for wedding invites, either use a thicker gauge, or wrap your folded invite with a band of paper (like a flat serviette ring) and seal that. Alternatively, seal only the envelope.

Bryan Fletcher – order seals and wax direct from...

www.photographictributes.com or photographictributes@paradise.net.nz

And if you are a bit like me and don't like reading instructions, the next page is for you.



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