

Crafting Ritual/Ceremonial Candles:

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Ritual Candles are a form of symbolism used within the circle while summoning the elements and guardians therein. Each is created with the symbols of a specific element in mind, and charged with the entities of that element. It is important to remember that all of the elements are of the Goddess and the God, as they are of everything, and before charging each candle should be concentrated and dedicated to the Lord and Lady.

While candles are used in virtually every tradition of Wicca, usually they are not assigned to be such symbolic tools. However, a ritual/ceremonial candle can be as powerful of a ritual tool as the Athame, Pinnacle, and Cauldron if so desired.

A benefit of working so intently upon a ritual candle, is first and foremost – The more time you spend working with a tool, the more attuned it will be with you and your energies and vice versa. Secondly, after crafting is completed, you can take some well-earned pride in the magnificent tool you have crafted for the Lord and Lady.

As you are crafting your ritual candles take some time to look at yourself, your life, and all the aspects of the two. Contemplate on the will of the Universe and the God and Goddess. Search your heart for guidance, and utilize the time for productive meditation.

Materials Needed for Candle Crafting:

Thin Paintbrush

Four (4) Small Black Plates/Saucers

Candles: Red, Blue, Yellow, Green and Black

Enamel Paints: Black, White, Red, Blue, Yellow, and Green (All Natural Paints if possible)

Optional Gemstones: Quartz Crystal, Topaz, Amethyst, Rock Crystal, and Ruby or Jasper

***Note:** I suggest using a thick, broad based candle, one that usually burns the inner part of the candle, leaving the outer shell in tact. This way the symbolism of your crafted candle will be maintained while the candle is in use. Also, a smooth texture will help with symbolism to be painted on candles.*

Using the Thin Paintbrush, paint the corresponding astrological symbols repeatedly around the base of the candles and decorative spiritual and lunar symbols upon the face of the candle:

Crafting the Candle of Earth:

Around the base of the Green Candle (using Black Enamel Paint) paint the astrological symbols for Taurus(♉), Virgo(♍), and Capricorn(♏) & on the face of the candle paint the name *Ghob*, the silhouette of a gnome or dwarf and the symbol of a waning moon(☾). Also, if a Rock Crystal is available, inset it below the symbol of the moon.

Charging the Candle of Earth:

Be sure to meditate and ground yourself and then consecrate and dedicate the tool to the Goddess and the God before charging (an example of a dedication ritual is included at the end of this document).

After crafting your Candle of Earth, it is time to charge it with the element and the entities therein. Sit in a peaceful place where you will not be disturbed. Using your sword or wand, starting at the east draw circle around yourself three times in a counter-clockwise direction and envision a trail of bluish-white light remaining where you've traced the tip of your sword or wand, the trail becoming brighter with each pass. Take a moment to realize that all negativity has been banished and cannot exist within your circle, and that only positive and creative energy remains.

Turn your body so that you are facing east and while holding the candle in both hands, raise it skyward, and mote the following:

*“Element of Earth, keeper of the East Wind
Ghob, ruler of those within, thy power send.”*

Place the candle upon the plate along with a corresponding offering of invitation (perhaps a palm of dirt from a place that holds significant personal meaning to you) and light the candle before saying the following:

*“Wisdom of age and bearer of winter,
energies of abundance and prosperity,
welcomed into my circles - thee may enter,
as I offer this candle as an alter and thy key.”*

This charging ritual invites the element of Earth, and all the positive and creative entities and energies of the element into your circle, and notes that those energies are welcomed into all of your circles when you light the candle during ritual work.

After you invite and mote your intention to the element of Earth, thank Ghob and the entities and energies within the element and mote that you are ending this part of the ritual as you snuff the candles flame.

Crafting the Candle of Fire:

Around the base of the Red Candle (using Black Enamel Paint) paint the astrological symbols for Leo(♌), Sagittarius(♐), and Aries(♈) & on the face of the candle paint the name *Djin*, the silhouette of a salamander or small dragon and the symbol of a waxing moon (☾). Also, if a Ruby or Jasper is available, inset it below the symbol of the moon.

Charging the Candle of Fire:

Be sure to meditate and ground yourself and then consecrate and dedicate the tool to the Goddess and the God before charging (an example of a dedication ritual is included at the end of this document). After crafting your Candle of Fire, it is time to charge it with the element and the entities therein. Sit in a peaceful place where you will not be disturbed. Using your sword or wand, starting at the east draw circle around yourself three times in a counter-clockwise direction and envision a trail of bluish-white light remaining where you've traced the tip of your sword or wand, the trail becoming brighter with each pass. Take a moment to realize that all negativity has been banished and cannot exist within your circle, and that only positive and creative energy remains. Turn your body so that you are facing south and while holding the candle in both hands, raise it skyward, and mote the following:

*“Element of Fire, keeper of the South Wind
Djjin, ruler of those within, thy power send.”*

Place the candle upon the plate along with a corresponding offering of invitation (perhaps write a very personal experience that holds much meaning for you and changed your life in a positive way on a small piece of paper and burn it upon the plate) and light the candle before saying the following:

*“Curiosity of youth and bearer of the summer sun,
energies of passion and sexuality,
into my circles ye are welcomed, changing one,
as I offer this candle as an alter and thy key.”*

This charging ritual invites the element of Fire, and all the positive and creative entities and energies of the element into your circle, and notes that those energies are welcomed into all of your circles when you light the candle during ritual work.

After you invite and mote your intention to the element of Fire, thank Djjin and the entities and energies within the element and mote that you are ending this part of the ritual as you snuff the candles flame.

Crafting the Candle of Water: *Receptive Feminine Energy (absorption and germination)*

Around the base of the Blue Candle (using Black Enamel Paint) paint the astrological symbols for Scorpio(♏), Pisces(♓), and Cancer(♋) & on the face of the candle paint the name *Niska* and the silhouette of a nymph or mermaid and the symbol of a full moon (☾). Also, if an Amethyst is available, inset it below the symbol of the moon.

Charging the Candle of Water:

Be sure to meditate and ground yourself and then consecrate and dedicate the tool to the Goddess and the God before charging (an example of a dedication ritual is included at the end of this document).

After crafting your Candle of Water, it is time to charge it with the element and the entities therein. Sit in a peaceful place where you will not be disturbed. Using your sword or wand, starting at the east draw circle around yourself three times in a counter-clockwise direction and envision a trail of bluish-white light remaining where you've traced the tip of your sword or wand, the trail becoming brighter with each pass. Take a moment to realize that all negativity has been banished and cannot exist within your circle, and that only positive and creative energy remains.

Turn your body so that you are facing west and while holding the candle in both hands, raise it skyward, and mote the following:

*“Element of Water, keeper of the West Wind
Niska, ruler of those within, thy power send.”*

Place the candle upon the plate along with a corresponding offering of invitation (perhaps a sprinkling of water from a bowl of water you have sipped from while remembering something or someone that has great meaning and makes you very happy) and light the candle before saying the following:

*“Knowledge of maturity and bearer of the autumn leaves
energies of absorption, germination and fertility,
within my circle ye are welcomed to be,
as I offer this candle as an alter and thy key.”*

This charging ritual invites the element of Water, and all the positive and creative entities and energies of the element into your circle, and notes that those energies are welcomed into all of your circles when you light the candle during ritual work.

After you invite and mote your intention to the element of Water, thank *Niska* and the entities and energies within the element and mote that you are ending this part of the ritual as you snuff the candles flame.

Crafting the Candle of Air: *Projective Masculine (Instruction, Freedom, and Obtaining Knowledge)*

Around the base of the Yellow Candle (using Black Enamel Paint) paint the astrological symbols for Aquarius(♒), Libra(♎), and Gemini(♊) & on the face of the candle paint the name *Paralda*, the silhouette of a fairy or sylph and the symbol of a new moon(☾). Also, if a Topaz is available, inset it below the symbol of the moon.

Charging the Candle of Air:

Be sure to meditate and ground yourself and then consecrate and dedicate the tool to the Goddess and the God before charging (an example of a dedication ritual is included at the end of this document).

After crafting your Candle of Air, it is time to charge it with the element and the entities therein. Sit in a peaceful place where you will not be disturbed. Using your sword or wand, starting at the east draw circle around yourself three times in a counter-clockwise direction and envision a trail of bluish-white light remaining where you've traced the tip of your sword or wand, the trail becoming brighter with each pass. Take a moment to realize that all negativity has been banished and cannot exist within your circle, and that only positive and creative energy remains.

Turn your body so that you are facing north and while holding the candle in both hands, raise it skyward, and mote the following:

“Element of Air, keeper of the North Wind

Paralda, ruler of those within, thy power send."

Place the candle upon the plate along with a corresponding offering of invitation (perhaps a palm of dirt from a place that holds significant personal meaning to you) and light the candle before saying the following:

*"Beginning of all things new, bearer of spring time and life
energies of freedom, knowledge and purity,
ye are welcomed into my circles without strife,
as I offer this candle as an alter and thy key."*

This charging ritual invites the element of Air, and all the positive and creative entities and energies of the element into your circle, and notes that those energies are welcomed into all of your circles when you light the candle during ritual work.

After you invite and mote your intention to the element of Air, thank Paralda and the entities and energies within the element and mote that you are ending this part of the ritual as you snuff the candles flame.

Crafting the Candle of Spirit:

Around the base of the Black Candle paint the symbols for the four phases of the moon (☾☽☽☽). Upon the face of the Black Candle (using White Enamel Paint) paint a pentagram and the silhouette of a stag, and if so desired, around the upper mid section or rim of the candle, paint the Wiccan rede "*An it harm none, do as ye will.*"

The Candle of Spirit is not charged with an element, rather charged during dedication for guidance and purity of heart. It is a constant remainder in the circle of the wiccan rede and proclamation that the intent of all actions within the circle is positive and within the law.

The black plates/saucers are to set the candles upon during ritual. Also, they may be used to place offerings or items of power such as herbs, gems, salts or incense to the corresponding element during certain rituals. These can be left blank and placed under the candles at the time of ceremony, or they can be decorated and symbolize each of the elements – This can be done by using the White Enamel Paint and painting the symbolism of the specific element onto the surface of the plate and painting the rim of the plate the corresponding color for that element.

Note: The charging of candles may be done several in one ritual, or all in one ritual should you create them all before charging. It is suggested to charge them in order counter clockwise from the east. Also, it is important to remember that after dedicated and charged that the candles are no longer "yours" they are tools bestowed upon you by the Lord and Lady, and a beacon and key into your circle for the element they are charged with.

Using Ritual Candles In Your Circle:

During ritual work in your circles a compass is used to determine the directions and then you set the candles upon small the black plates accordingly as follows and in this order: Green(Earth)/East, Red(Fire)/South, Blue(Water)/West, Yellow(Air)/North. As each candle is set down and lit, summon the element into your circle with a mote (This first mote of each charging ritual would be acceptable).

The Black(Spirit) Candle is symbolic of everything, and is not used in the magickal work, but rather in invoking the Lord and Lady and will be kept within the inner circle. Also the entire ritual/ceremony is of spirit, and therefore it needs no plate for offerings or tools of power. It is a constant remainder in the circle of the wiccan rede and proclamation that the intent of all actions within the circle is positive and within the law.

Consecrating & Dedicating Ceremony for Ritual Candles:

Be sure to meditate and ground yourself before performing the ceremony. Sit in a peaceful place where you will not be disturbed. Place the candle on a black cloth, and your other ceremony materials around the

cloth. In the air, just above the candle, trace a pentagram with your index finger and envision the tip of your finger leaving a trail of bluish-white light, as if actually drawing it in the air. When the pentagram is finished note the following:

*“Maiden Goddess, energy of youth and curiosity
I ask that you concentrate this candle with your purity.
Mother Goddess, energy of maturity and protection,
I ask your watchful eye upon this tool to be.
Crone Goddess, energy of age and ancient wisdom,
I ask that you guide this tool so that I may see.
Horned God, energy of strength and will,
I ask that with this tool you guide the law through me.”*

Place your hand over the candle and envision the purity, wisdom, protection and strength of the lord and lady pouring from within you and encompassing the candle and say the following while doing so:

*“Oh, Goddess of the Moon and Magick,
And God of the Sun and Forest,
I dedicate this tool to your will and wisdom,
Let it be source of no curse, no harm and no hate
So moted, so shall it be!”*

You have now dedicated the candle to the Lord and Lady, and consecrated and purified it with their energies. The candle is no longer yours, but rather theirs, and you are allowed to use it as a tool of ritual workings as long as it is done without the intent of harm, negativity, or hatred. As with all spell crafting rituals, if you are not completely sure of your intent, meditate and ask for guidance from the goddess. If you listen, she will answer.

Notes on Crafting Ritual/Ceremonial Candles: For clarification purposes, these notes have been added. The shapes of the candles suggested are wide, cylindrical and tall. The base of the candle, as stated in this article, means the rim around the part of the candle that touches the table, it does not mean the actual bottom of the candle. The face of the candle, as stated in the article, means the side of a candle, more specifically, the side of the candle that faces you when inside a circle.