

How to make a beeswax wrap – FAQs

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Is this dangerous?

Caution is recommended when using the hot iron and the wax is hot when melted; however if you are careful when smoothing the iron slowly across the baking sheet, no wax should leak out.

What do I need to make the wraps?

In this demonstration I use an iron, beeswax, coconut oil, 100% cotton, a towel, baking paper and a knife.

Can I use any material to make these?

100% cotton is the only material I recommend for these wraps; any other material will not absorb the wax and leave a film that appears greasy afterwards. Thin cotton is best so if you have old cotton material (eg pillow case) that you want to reuse, that's perfect. Be sure to check the label to ensure that it is 100% cotton.

How do I clean my wrap?

You can wipe it with a warm damp cloth to clean your wrap after each use. I wipe mine after washing dishes with the warm dish cloth. Don't scrub your wrap or wash it in hot soapy water as this can take the wax off.

Where can I get wax?

You may be able to source beeswax from a local beekeeper. Alternatively, you can buy it online from an Irish beekeeper/company. Some local health food shops also sell small bars of wax that can be grated if you want to try this out for the first time.

Do I really need to use coconut oil?

It seems like such a small amount that it won't make a difference - while only a dab of coconut oil is used to make a wrap, it improves suppleness of the finished wrap, allowing it to be soft enough to act like plastic wrap. It also prevents the wax from cracking on use.

How should I store my wraps?

You can fold them and keep them in a paper bag in a drawer. The heat of your hands will mould them to shape each time you use them. In Ireland we don't get extreme temperatures that require the wraps to be stored in a fridge or cold place.

I've seen other methods of making these wraps online; which is the best method?

There are lots of different methods for making these beeswax wraps. I have used this method to demonstrate a simple way to make a long lasting wrap. I regularly give workshops using this method and find it to be an easy introduction to making a wrap.