

Irish Christmas Craft Ideas

Red Candles

Using Beeswax sheets, form large red candles. Take the sheet of wax, place flat on a table. Using a length of wick, begin at one edge tightly wrapping the wick in the wax. Continue to roll the wax until a taper is formed. You can add additional sheets of wax for form a large candle. Alternatively, you can add red coloring (a red crayon works well) to melted beeswax and dip wicks, forming red tapers.

Trinity Candles

Three-wicked candles can be formed with the beeswax sheets, making three small tapers, then pressing them together firmly and wrapping the three with additional sheets of beeswax. Alternately, you can dip three tapers, then either fasten them together, or using a large mold pour melted wax around the tree, giving you a large candle with three wicks.

Candleholders

In Ireland many families did not own enough candleholders, so for the Christmaside, which used so many candles, they improvised. Turnips or rutabagas were plentiful and large and heavy enough to safely hold a candle. You will need the vegetables, a paring knife, and small plates or something to protect the table or windowsill. Cut off the top and bottom of the vegetable. Make sure that the bottom is flat. Make a hole in the top big enough to hold the candle. Using the paring knife, cut notches in a star pattern around the core hole to form a star pattern, and decorate the sides with other stars or carving depending on your level of skill. Place on a plate so the dampness of the vegetable does not harm the surface you are sitting it on. Smaller vegetables can make nice individual candleholders for the table.

Holly Garland

Cut out holly leaves and red berries from colored papers. String together to form chains and use as garlands. Alternatively, use fresh holly leaves and again, string them together. Hang in doorways, around windows, over picture frames, etc.