

## Fire-Starting Wafers with a Candle and Cotton Pads

1. Put **candle** in a pan and turn up the heat, low and slow.
2. Wait until you have about an  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. of liquid wax melted.
3. Use tweezers or tongs & put a few **cotton pads** at the bottom of the pan, all in one layer so they don't overlap. In a few seconds, they'll absorb a good bit of the wax, but just enough to coat the outside.
4. Take them out & let them cool on a sheet of wax paper completely before tossing them into a zipper bag.
5. The next time you need to start a fire quickly, just grab one of the pads, tear it open partially to expose the cotton fibers inside, and light it up. You'll get a slow-burning fire-starter that won't go out before the rest of your kindling has caught on too.



## Match Candles

### **Supplies:**

- Matches
- Toilet paper
- Melted wax

### **Instructions:**

1. Take one piece of toilet paper and cut it in half.
2. Roll the paper onto the match.
3. Dip the match into the melted wax and let it dry.
4. Before striking the match, make sure to scrape off the wax from the match head.



## Fire Balls

### **Supplies:**

- Cotton balls
- Isopropyl alcohol
- Petroleum jelly

### **Instructions:**

1. Soak the cotton ball in alcohol. Squeeze the excess out.
2. Coat each cotton ball with petroleum jelly.
3. Keep it in a safe container.
4. Prior to lighting, make sure not to directly hold the cotton ball.
5. Place the cotton ball in the fire pit and carefully drop the match to ignite the fire balls.



## Lint Carton Fire Pods

### **Supplies:**

- Candles, or any wax
- Paper egg carton
- Laundry lint
- Scissors or box cutter

### **Instructions:**

1. Melt any leftover candles or wax available.
2. In an paper egg carton, place a cotton ball or lint into each pod.
3. Pour in melted wax until lint is fully submerged.
4. Let it dry and then cut each pod.
5. Light the edge on fire and place it in the fire pit.



# Waterproof, Fire-Starting Fire Straws

## Supplies:

- Plastic drinking straws\*\*
- Cotton balls or dryer lint
- Petroleum jelly
- Scissors
- A candle
- A pair of pliers or a multi-tool
- Toothpicks or bamboo skewers

## Directions:

1. First, toss several cotton balls or a few pinches of dryer lint into a plastic baggie and add in a dollop of petroleum jelly. Mash it all together for a bit, making sure all of the cotton or lint is impregnated with the jelly. Leave it in the bag for the time being.
2. Next, cut your drinking straws to size. Cut them in half or into thirds, depending on the size of the kit. A great way to store fire straws is in an Altoids tin. It is not necessary to keep them in a separate container.
3. Light your candle and begin sealing one end of each cut straw. Hold the end of the straw a few inches above the candle flame, just until you see the plastic begin to soften. Using the pliers, crimp it closed tight. After you've done this to all the cut straws, move on to filling them.
4. Remove a small pinch of the now slimy cotton balls and roll it up thin enough to fit into the straw. You can wear latex gloves if desired.
5. Use a toothpick or bamboo skewer to shove the cotton down into the straw. Keep filling until there's only about a half inch of space left.
6. Once the straws are full, you need to seal them. Do this the same way you did the first time around, holding the open end of the straw above the candle flame, then crimping it shut.
7. To use a fire straw, you take a knife and cut a slit along the side of the straw. Pull some of the cotton out through the slit and light it with a match or spark. . If you lack a knife, the plastic is thin enough that you could even gnaw it open with your teeth.
8. As it burns, it will also light up the plastic, creating a good-sized flame that will burn long enough to get your fire going.
9. This is a great project for a family project.



## Make a Twisted Newspaper Fire Starter

Using newspaper to get a blaze going usually results in just another flash in the fireplace. An old-fashioned solution: these newspaper twists.

1. Tightly roll a sheet of newspaper, bend it in half, twist the ends together, and fasten with twine.



# DIY Fire Starters

*Easy DIY fire starter that lights instantly and cost almost nothing but your time.*

[www.dabblesandbabbles.com](http://www.dabblesandbabbles.com)

## Materials:

- Lint
- Newspaper
- Toilet paper rolls - cut in half
- Candles
- String
- Herbs - *Sage helps keep bugs away* (not essential but nice if you have it)
- Wax or parchment paper
- Cookie sheet

## Directions:

1. Place wax or parchment paper on cookie sheet and place toilet paper rolls out on the tray.
2. Stuff each roll with lint until its pretty full.
3. Light a candle, tilt on the side and drip wax into the roll onto the lint (always taking care not to burn yourself or light the roll or lint on fire).
4. If you have fresh herbs, place on top of the lint in the roll.
5. Roll a sheet of newspaper around the toilet paper roll and tie off with string so that they look like Christmas crackers.

