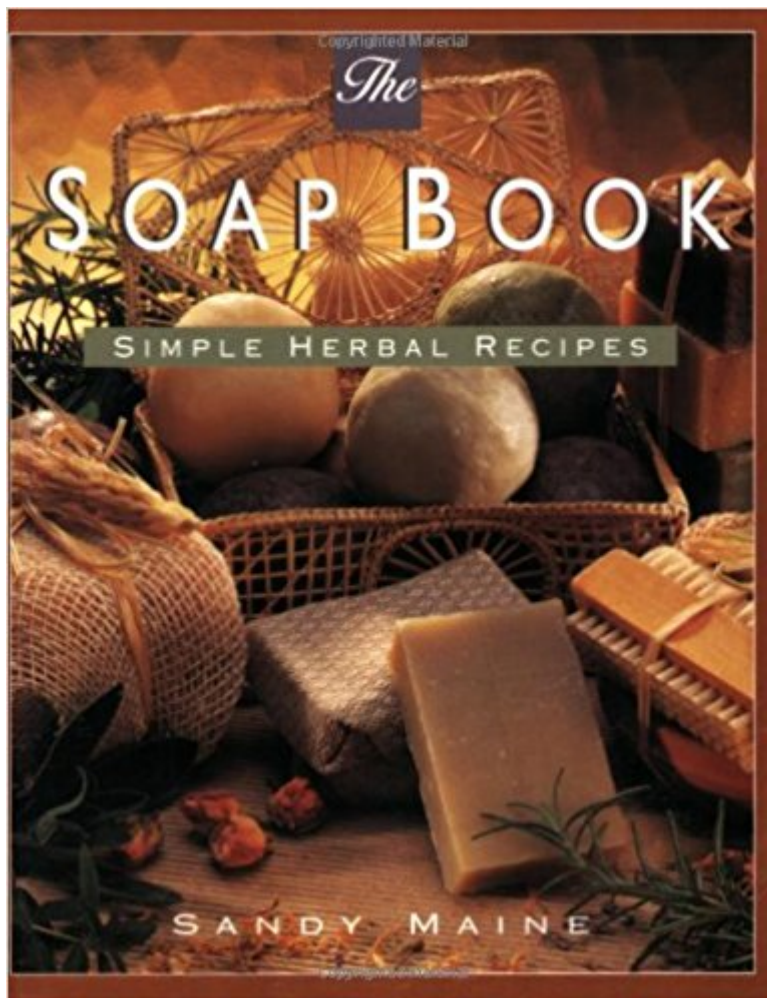




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# Soap Book



## Synopsis

Fire Light, Forest Garden, Gentlemen Farmer, Lemon Verbena, Oat and Wheat Bran--this is but a sampling of the thirty wonderful recipes you'll find in this guide to making soap. History, chemistry, equipment, plants, and oils--everything you need to know to create your own all-natural, handcrafted, herbal, aromatherapy, and floral soaps.

## Book Information

Paperback: 96 pages

Publisher: Interweave (September 1, 1995)

Language: English

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Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 59 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #369,389 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #18 in [Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Chemical > Cosmetics](#) #170 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Candlemaking](#) #178 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Soap Making](#)

## Customer Reviews

Sandy Maine is the founder of the Sunfeather Handcrafted Herbal Soap Company, which produces and markets more than 140,000 pounds of soap each year, and the author of Soothing Soaps.

This book is not a good book for soap making. My friend who taught me to make soap uses it so it's what I used as a new home soap maker. Now that I've made soap a few times, I realize that Sandy Maine doesn't really want to share her soap making skills, which is so common in soap making. The way the recipe (there is only one) is written is not helpful, the temperatures of the oils and lye are questionable, the amounts are not easily understood if you have an ounce scale, and the list goes on. Don't waste your money.

I was hoping for something a little more. There is one soap recipe that uses Crisco and that is it. She has different scents but otherwise the same recipe. I am sure you can make a fine soap using

Crisco but I try not to eat it so really don't want to use it in my soap either.

I absolutely LOVE this book! It's my plan to one day create my own homemade soap and this book is one I will definitely use as my recipe guide. Sandy Maine's website is still open at the time of this review and you can buy her soaps, with some exclusions (since she is no longer 100% involved in the soap-making process), but all of her soap recipes from the past are here in this book and the stories that go along with them as well. It's an excellent read. She's obviously a very intelligent woman. Photos are wonderful. Timeless. This is a well-prepared, well-designed book.

Terrible disappointment each soap recipe is the exact same! It really should be titled The simplest soap book ever. The only things that change is the fragrance blend in each page.

This book may have been interesting when published in 1995, but it's woefully inadequate for today's home soapmakers. Not good for beginners due to the weak and incomplete instructions given. Vital safety and troubleshooting issues were totally ignored. One of the recipes is downright insane. "Mechanics' Body Repair Soap" calls for 2oz. of highly flammable kerosene, a degreasing agent and "scent that only a mechanic would love". No hazardous materials warning. She regards it as an ordinary fragrance oil. I wouldn't want to overturn a potful of scalding hot, caustic lye doing that one. The author owns a well-staffed soap manufacturing plant and is totally out of touch with what she calls "common, everyday folk". She offers only one boring recipe using 38 ounces of Crisco, 48 ounces of inexpensive carrier oils, 12oz. of lye and 32oz. of water, including unsoftened bilge from the tap. A small fortune in strong herbal essential oils is added to that. Result: Loads of waxy-looking soap blocks in harsh, dull colors. OK for outdoorsy men, but no aesthetic appeal for the average woman. Nothing on moisturizing additives, attractive coloration, light fragrances or anything else women tend to look for in toiletries. She relegates ever-popular Lavender scents to "elderly women" and writes in a generally condescending tone. The proofreaders had a few spelling problems as well. There are much better instruction books available. Among them, "The Hand Made Soap Book" by Melinda Coss. Published in September 1998. A beautiful book with lots of great ideas.

Had lost my first copy of this book when moving. Made a lot of soap over the years using the recipes in this book. Soap "traces" quickly using author's methods.

Happy with my purchase

Have used this book in the past-and love the info

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