
Please help me rebatch!

Posted by Rebecca - 1998/07/13 13:10

"I know many people have been writing in about rebatching...

I'm determined to succeed at this and just cannot get my soap to melt, despite following instructions--it's so frustrating!

Can anyone help me with "no fail" instructions?

I'd be so grateful for the assistance."

Re: please help me rebatch!

Posted by Doreen - 1998/07/14 04:53

"Rebecca,

There really isn't one way to rebatch. Each basic soap recipe melts down a little differently than others. What I have found works best for me is a tallow based soap that is slightly lye-heavy. If you are trying to rebatch a superfatted veggie based soap, good luck. Lisa-Lisa, the rebatching queen whose rebatching instructions are all over the 'net is on my soap list and she agrees that a lye-heavy soap works best. Save the superfatting for when you rebatch. Don't worry about the soap being lye heavy! When you rebatch, the additives and water dilute it down to an acceptable PH. At times I have had problems with soap not melting (I used lye that had solidified in the container. Bad Doreen, Bad! Bad!) and I used powdered milk as mentioned in other posts below. With my particular recipe, it worked. I cannot guarantee that it will work for you.

I like a tallow based soap because I can grate up the whole batch, store it and make small rebatches whenever I want. If you really prefer a veggie soap, try grating and rebatching when it is very moist. The book that I have suggests this for most of the veggie recipies. This means, of course, that if you make a 10 pound batch of basic veggie soap, you will have to grate and rebatch the whole thing within a couple days. I personally don't have that kind of time to devote to soapmaking, I need to sneak in an hour here or there.

Believe it or not, there are advantages to rebatching even with all of the extra work. I think the biggest is that it takes far, far less EO's or FO's to get the same results. There is no longer any lye present to distort your additives so the scent and color stay true.

Good luck!

Doreen

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Re: please help me rebatch!

Posted by Cesar - 1998/07/14 07:25

Hi Doreen

I was just wondering what you meant about ôlye heaveö it sounds interesting. If you have any web addresses that I can visit that would be great. I have been using the powder milk trick and it works great.

Thanks for the info in advance..

Cesar

Re: please help me rebatch!

Posted by Rachel - 1998/07/15 06:15

"Rebecca:

I'm making a 3 lb batch as we speak. I used Lisa Lisa's 12-Step rebatching instructions...I think she is connected to The Green Cottage's webpage. If you can't find it, let me know and I'll get you the address.

I use all veggie soaps. My rebatching has been ok, even though I made a few boo boo's along the way. By basic soap is all vegie, and I forgot to change the lye content when I substituted palm oil for vegie shortening. So I had almost a 14% superfatter soap! I thought it would never work. But I let it cure for a full month, then grated it up, and let it dry further. Then I started using Lisa Lisa's steps. I use a double boiler and put it on a very LOW heat. I use almost the full amount of liquid since my soap dried so long, and I use MILK as my liquid, not water.

My first rebatch got too bubbly and airy. The second I burnt the milk so it turned dark brown and smelled like burnt cookies. My third and fourth batches were fine. I made apricot and I'm making kiwi right now. I almost prefer this kind of soapmaking to cp! I would get Lisa's steps and follow them. You can contact her directly too from her direction page.

Rachel"

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Re: please help me rebatch!

Posted by Rebecca - 1998/07/15 08:13

Rachel-
thanks for the tips-
would you mind telling me how to find Lisa Lisa's 12 step instructions?
I've tried looking around and can't find them
thanks
Rebecca

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Re: please help me rebatch!

Posted by Rachel - 1998/07/15 14:13

Go to www.greencottage.com/Rabatching.htm. They're all there! Have fun.

Rachel

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