



## CANDLE FRAGRANCES

Some concentrated fragrances are soluble in wax, while many others are not or are only soluble in small amounts. Different candle manufacturers use different wax formulations which further complicate the solubility of perfume oils. In order to be sure that our fragrances are soluble in everyone's wax formulations, we add soluble substances which will "carry in" the perfume oil into the wax.

In the past, most scented candles used between 1.5% - 2% perfume. Today, many scented candles contain from 5% - 10% perfume oil. You will only get as much perfume out of a candle as you put into it. Many of our candle customers want to make their fragrances as strong as possible.

Some wax companies are adding mineral oil to their wax blends in order to reduce the price. Unfortunately, the more mineral oil that is in the wax, the less perfume oil will go into it. To compensate for this, wax suppliers can add their own additives, allowing the candles to absorb more perfume oil.

In general, the more perfume put into a candle, the softer the wax will become and the lower the melting point will be. It may also have adverse effects on the way the flame burns and what the wax looks like as it solidifies. Candles which have large amounts of perfume oils, which are not very soluble, will often have a mottled appearance.

When perfume oils are added to the liquid wax, the mixture should be transparent. If the mixture looks cloudy or milky, this means the perfume oil is not soluble in the wax. When this happens, the perfume oil will separate out of the candle as it cools. It is always best to add the perfume to the wax just before pouring the candles. The longer the perfume sits in the hot wax, the more it will be "driven off" into the air. If it is necessary to wait before pouring the candles, it is always best to keep the container covered. This will prevent the loss of additional scent into the air. The temperature at which the candles cool and the length of time it takes for them to cool will greatly affect the appearance of the candle and how much it will "shrink."

Frequently, candle companies experience problems with colors fading or changing. Many dyes are not stable under UV light waves and will fade. Daylight and fluorescent lights are the main culprits. In addition, sometimes pastel shades of blue may fade or turn green and white candles may turn yellow or off-white. This is sometimes due to ingredients in the fragrances. With scented candles it is best not to make pale blue or



pure white candles. We have specific fragrances which some of our candle customers have used in the past for white candles. Many fragrance types will not be possible when a white candle is desired.

Almost any fragrance type can be supplied in a specifically formulated version for use in scented candles. Prices vary strictly according to the cost of the raw materials used in each. We do have different versions of most fragrance types so that many fragrances are available in a variety of price ranges to meet our customers' requirements. It is meaningless for customers to purchase fragrances strictly by price comparison. The fragrance sample must be used in the product and compared after it is diluted down. The fragrance which seems to be a price bargain may be totally ineffective or found to be rather poor in quality after it is in the product. Fragrance samples are often ten to one hundred times stronger smelling than the finished product smells. They cannot be fairly evaluated in their concentrated form.

Vanilla is the most popular fragrance for scented candles. It amounts to 40% - 50% of the total amount of candle fragrances used. Cinnamon and spice would be the next most popular scents. Following these, the next group of fragrances would include Strawberry, Peach, Apple or Spiced Apple. There are many other fragrances which make up the balance. Some customers also use designer-type fragrances such as Eternity, Sunflower, CK One, Drakkar, etc. Since these names are registered trade names, they are often sold under generic names such as Midsummer Eve, White Lace, etc.