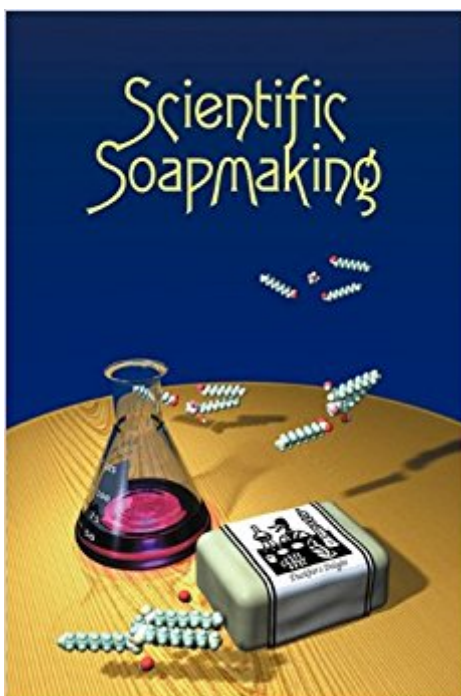




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Scientific Soapmaking: The Chemistry Of The Cold Process



Synopsis

Until now, there were just two kinds of books on soapmaking. Books for the commodity soap industry emphasized the economical production of soap by the ton and were written for those with a background in chemistry and chemical engineering. Books for the emerging craft industry emphasized the production of high-quality soap by the pound and were aimed at those familiar with the format of cookbooks. Makers of handcrafted soap often wish they had paid more attention in chemistry class so that the information of the commodity soap books would be accessible to them. Scientific Soapmaking answers that call by bridging the gap between the technical and craft literatures. It explains the chemistry of fats, oils, and soaps, and it teaches sophisticated analytical techniques that can be carried out using equipment and materials familiar to makers of handcrafted soap. Presented in a college textbook format, Scientific Soapmaking guides students and individual soapmakers alike to formulate questions about soap and design experiments to answer those questions scientifically.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Gosh, I don't know where to start with this review. This book is exceptional for the person wanting A LOT of technical information and experiments to try. This is truly for the person who wants to take their soapmaking to the next level. If you have just started soaping and are full of excitement and just want to make soap (yes it's addicting), this is probably not a book your going to stop and read. Don't get me wrong--I think it's an amazing book if you're at the right stage in soapmaking. In

MY OPINION :-) I think this would be great for the person who has been thinking about it but has not yet started. It would be a great way to start by really understanding the process in a systematic way. I also think this would be great for the person who is past that I want to make soap day and night stage and is ready to take their soapmaking to the next level. In a nutshell, it's an amazing book but is not an easy/casual read. Having said all that, I fall into that middle category and have used it more as a reference or to troubleshoot--which i probably would not need to do if I read the book and completed the mini soap experiments/trials!

Fact based Soap making book! Kevin M. Dunn has a good sense of humor, although dry, in this book. There is so much information I have room for much growth as a soap maker. I look forward to understanding more and more. The book is like a text book and makes sense as the writer was/is an educator. It also dispels many soaping myths with facts. I refer to this book often and it sits on my desk as my go-to reference, even better than "google".

Very informative book. A basic high school chemistry background is all that's required to fully digest the material. It really helps if you have at least seen some diagrams of molecules before so you don't instantly freak out when you see one. But he explains it well enough to grasp it on the first run. I've had science labs in high school and a few in college, and I have a degree in Math, but none of that was required to follow his explanations. It does not read like a cookbook. There are no recipes in here to follow. He instead teaches a process that can be used to create soaps of specifically desired qualities in such a way that it scales up very easily. The book starts out with definitions and processes and lays a foundation for the last half of the book, which is what you probably bought it for if you aren't a novice soap maker. The last half explains a few experiments he did to test various qualities in soap like whether there is a difference in a lye discount and superfatting. I found the explanation of soap curd vs neat soap to be very interesting and the experiment on melted soap vs unmelted in water was enlightening. This is a book I recommend you read if you want to know more about making soap than what you'd find in a youtube video.

Definitely a book for the experienced soap maker who has delved into the inner works of soap. You will need to read it over and over but it does become clear as you move along. This was never meant to be an "Instruction book" but rather a class in which the author experimented with students and documented very detailed results.

I waited anxiously for this book and when it finally arrived I was ecstatic. It was better than I anticipated. It is a textbook and the goal is to teach. I have been getting refreshed on old chemistry concepts that I have forgotten and can't put the book down. If you are new to soap making and you want to become a better soaper, then this is the book for you. I have learned so much in just the first chapter. I highly recommend every soaper to have this book in your soap making library.

Great book for anyone making homemade soap. Clear explanations on how to measure all the important parameters to consistently makes a great batch of soap. A must have for anyone with a home based soap business. Following the testing procedures described in the book will help pin point problems and save time and money instead of having wasted batched of soap.

My wife and I have been making soap for years and had a few unsettled questions we thought might be answered in this book. We drastically underestimated the depth and scope of this work. You need a chemistry background to fully grasp the presented material but if you follow the procedures faithfully you can do such things as create your own table of SAP values for using unusual ingredients such as bison fat or any other oil used in soap making. You can also calculate the strength of your lye as well as the amount of moisture it has absorbed from the atmosphere. This book is devoid of fluff but full of information and techniques for solving complex problems soap makers sometimes encounter. This is a serious work for serious soap makers.

Love it! I am an avid soaper and this book teaches you soaping from a scientific point. Learn a lot.

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