



Universität
Basel

Swiss Nanoscience Institute



Tealight holders from old CDs

Transform your old CDs or DVDs into pretty tealight holders

If you have any old CDs lying around that are scratched or just no longer used, don't throw them away. They're great for all sorts of projects – like tealight holders. If you don't have any old CDs, you can of course buy a spindle of blank ones.

What you'll need:

- 2 old CDs or DVDs, preferably with nothing printed on them
- an oven and a baking tray
- a sheet of aluminum foil
- oven mitts
- a glass with a base around the size of a tealight

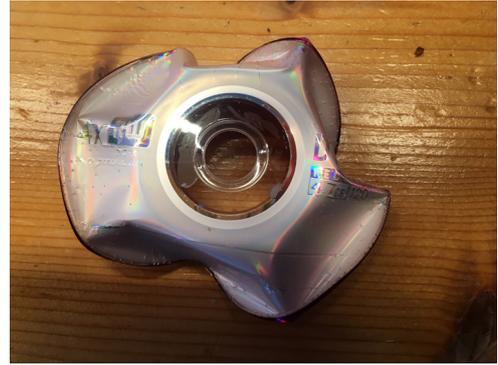
Instructions:

1. Heat the oven to around 200°C/392°F.
2. Place a sheet of aluminum foil on the baking tray.
3. Put the CDs together with the data side facing outward.
4. Place the glass upside down on the baking tray.
5. Place the CDs on top of it.
6. Stay close by while the CDs are in the oven. It won't take long – somewhere between 4 and 15 minutes. Watch what happens. Make sure you don't leave the CDs in the oven for too long.
7. CAUTION! The glass and CDs will be very hot. Leave them somewhere to cool where no one can accidentally burn themselves on them.
8. After around 10 minutes, you can lift the CDs off the glass, turn them over, and place a tealight inside. All done!





Holder made from a single CD; front.



Back



Made from two CDs; front.



Back; the shapes come about by chance.

Not all CDs and DVDs produce the same color. It's difficult to predict how the color will turn out, or what shapes the holders will take. You may also find that some CDs don't stick together as well as others. Just experiment and see what happens!