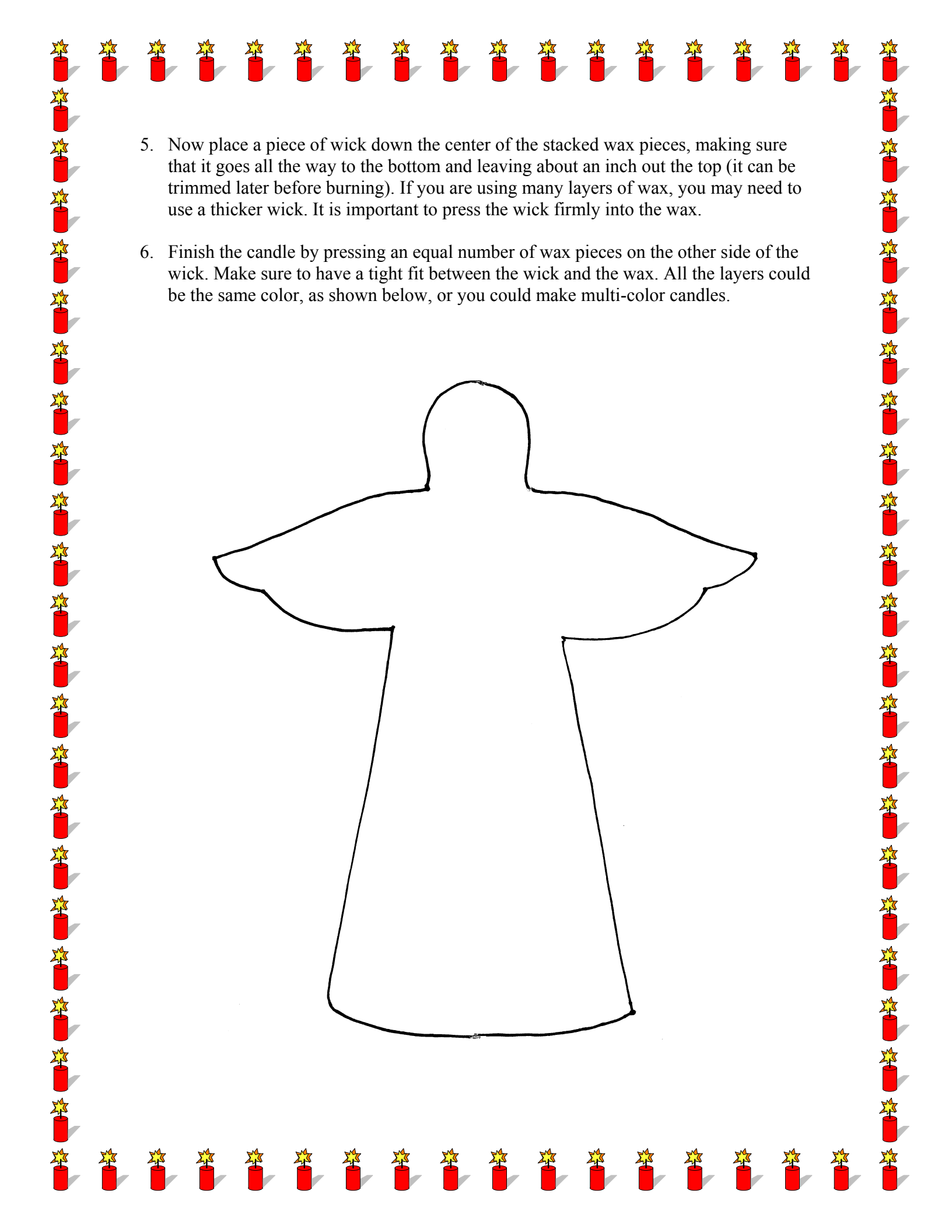


# Cookie Cutter Candles

Here is a fairly simple way to make Christmas candles from sheets of beeswax. These make nice gifts or can be used in family worship.



1. Purchase sheets of beeswax, either natural or in different colors. These sheets are available at many craft stores. There are also several companies that sell them over the internet. Places that sell the sheets will also have wicks.
2. If you have fairly large angel sheep, or star cookie cutters, you can use them. Or you can mount the shapes below and on the next pages below onto cardboard, cut them out and use them as a template, tracing around them with a small knife on the wax (can also be used to make cookies, of course).
3. Place a sheet of wax on a flat surface and cut out angels or stars. This will be easier if you warm the wax slightly with a hairdryer or dip the cookie cutters or knife into hot water just before cutting.
4. You will need at least 8 wax pieces in the same shape to make one candle. You need to have an even number of pieces. The more pieces you have, the more easily your candle will stand up. (If you have a candle stick with a spike, that will also help.) When you have enough pieces, place half of your pieces on top of each other, pressing lightly to make them stick together. Again, it is useful if you warm the wax slightly first.

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- A decorative border of lit candles surrounds the page. The candles are arranged in a grid-like pattern, with a row of 18 candles at the top, a row of 18 at the bottom, and vertical columns of 18 candles on the left and right sides. Each candle is red with a yellow flame and a black shadow.
5. Now place a piece of wick down the center of the stacked wax pieces, making sure that it goes all the way to the bottom and leaving about an inch out the top (it can be trimmed later before burning). If you are using many layers of wax, you may need to use a thicker wick. It is important to press the wick firmly into the wax.
  6. Finish the candle by pressing an equal number of wax pieces on the other side of the wick. Make sure to have a tight fit between the wick and the wax. All the layers could be the same color, as shown below, or you could make multi-color candles.

