

## Rendering Wax Cappings and Comb

### Tools:

Large pot for boiling wax plus water (think lobster pot only cheap)

Bucket (larger than or equal to large pot) to strain wax/water into and cool

Small pot for melting filtered wax (Get one you can wield with one hand. A handle is good.)

Metal pitcher

Wax molds, candle molds, or other final containers (e.g. Tupperware)

Cone-shaped sieve or strainer

Grease filters or paper towels. Don't use coffee filters.

Old T-shirts or other cotton fabric (e.g. old pillow cases)

Bungee cord

### Steps:

1. Stretch a T-shirt (one thickness) over the top of your bucket, using the bungee cord to secure it.
2. In the large pot, boil the wax cappings in water. Use AT LEAST 3X more water than wax; more is better.
3. When all the wax has melted and it's simmering, carefully pour the wax/water mixture through the T-shirt into the bucket. Make sure you do not overfill the bucket because slopping melted wax and water onto anything will definitely ruin your day.
4. Keep the level of wax/water below the shirt so it can continue to drain. Remove the T-shirt and bungee cord if the level of water has reached the shirt.
5. Leave the bucket alone and let it cool. Cooling will take overnight.
6. Wipe out the warm large pot while it's still easy to do.
7. After the wax/water has cooled, the wax will have formed a disc on top of the water. Push down on one edge to flip it up. Let it dry completely on some paper towels.
8. Melt the wax (no water this time) in the small pot, using your large pot as a double-boiler. Don't let the water in the big pot boil so much that it splashes into the wax.
9. Position your grease filter or paper towels in the sieve over your pitcher.
10. Pour the melted wax through the filter into the pitcher.
11. Pour the clean wax into molds.

If you end up with a lot of clean wax left in your pitcher, just leave it there. When you want to do something with wax next time, just use the pitcher as your re-melter in the double-boiler method used previously.