



Make your own Beeswax wrap

An eco friendly alternative to clingfilm.

What you will need:

- 100 g beeswax, (pellets, grated or smashed into small-ish pieces)
- lightweight cotton fabric, washed and ironed
- Non-stick baking paper or tinfoil
- Pinking shears if you have them. If not sharp scissors.
- Iron

Beeswax wraps have proven to be a wonderful substitute for single-use plastic wrap. The only downside? Buying wraps can get pretty pricey. Here is how to make your own for a much lower cost. Best of all they are reusable so overall they end up being cheaper than clingfilm.

100% cotton is the best fabric for the job as it readily absorbs beeswax and is a naturally durable and affordable fibre. If you don't want to go out and buy cotton you can breathe new life into an old cotton blouse or t-shirt by cutting it up and turning it into beeswax wrap.

Cut your fabric into a pieces that at least 5cm / 2.5 inches bigger all round than the bowl you want to cover. If you use pinking shears the edges won't fray.

To make the wraps cover an ironing board with tinfoil or non-stick baking parchment, which protects your board and reflects heat, allowing the wax to melt faster. Then, you place the fabric on the foil and sprinkle on the wax up to the edges. Cover the beeswax-sprinkled fabric with either parchment paper or foil to protect your iron. (Parchment paper is ideal since it will allow you to see the wax distribution as you iron, but foil also works) With an iron set to high, press and rub the cloth starting toward the centre and stroking outward, until the cloth is saturated with wax. Leave to cool. Put your new wrap over the bowl and use the warmth of your hands to mould the wrap round.

Hold onto that extra wax: You will have some left over wax, but that's for the best, since after three to six months, when your wrap starts to lose its cling, you can refresh it with a new coat. You could also revitalize any store-bought beeswax wrap that's lost its cling using the iron method. Just keep in mind that it will probably feel a little different than it did when you first bought it.

Overall, making your own beeswax wraps is much cheaper than buying the premade varieties, especially if you're reusing cloth you already have on hand. DIY beeswax wrap offers that special homemade touch that makes a gift particularly special. Think about making some for friends or family.