

Faded Pink Candles

Dear Aunt Daisy,

I wonder if you could help me with colouring some candles. I have several which were originally rose-pink in colour, but with the sunshine or light they have faded to an almost off-white. Do you know of any method whereby I could paint them or colour them once again? I would be very grateful for any advice.

"Joan," Wellington.

One Link in the Daisy Chain has had great success by using the almost-finished lip-stick ends. She digs these out of their holder, and rubs the faded (or even new) candles with these warmed to softness in her fingers. Often she has blended different shades of lipstick, making fuchsia coloured candles, and others besides. At Christmas time she cuts up candles and colours them thus, for her Christmas tree, sprinkling afterwards with the popular "glitter," with excellent effect. Here is still another idea, from Plimmerton. "I heard you speaking about faded candles, and wondering how to restore them to a rose-pink shade. I have done this very successfully by painting the candles with a cheap brand of nail varnish from the chain stores, choosing the shade required from the nail varnish chart. Paint the varnish on with the little brush provided in the bottle. One small bottle is sufficient to do two coats on several pairs of candles. I hope this method will be satisfactory to your listener."

Cream Puff Swans

Dear Aunt Daisy,

I wonder if you could help me with this query? I noticed in a baker's shop-window some little cakes made in the shape of swans! The mixture appeared to be in cream puff ingredients. They looked so realistic. I wonder if you could tell me how they are shaped; or are there some special tins to bake these in and if so where could I procure some? With all good wishes.

"B.S.," Outram.

Yes, I remember broadcasting this recipe a couple of years ago. The swans make a very pretty table decoration, especially if arranged on a big, fair-sized mirror, oval or oblong, in the centre, to give the illusion of floating on a lake. Water-lilies made of plastic icing may be placed appropriately. Make the puffs according to your usual recipe. Save out some of the mixture and push it through a biscuit-forcer on to greased baking sheet in big S-shaped pieces, or like question-marks, to form swan necks. Force out also sufficient small, pointed pieces for tails. Bake puffs, etc., in hot oven (450 degrees) for first 20 minutes, then reduce to slow, and bake about 20 minutes longer. Cool. Cut off 1-3rd of top of cream puffs; fill puffs with whipped cream; cut the top pieces in halves and press into the filling to represent wings. Insert a neck and a tail into the filling of each swan. With a little practice you can make them very life-like.

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