These soap bars take a little longer to make and a little more soap if you are doing several colors but they are well worth it! Remember you can use any scraps you may have accumulated. Re-melt and keep the fragrance the same.

Making the “Chunks”
I know it’s a tough call but decide how many colors you want to use for your chunks. We’ll go through it for one color. If you want more than one, follow these instructions for each color. You will have a lot of chunks if you make more than one color so plan on making a couple of bars.

If you are using the M154 mold like us, melt about 5 cubes of CLEAR soap according to package instructions, or click here or the Soap Making 101 link to the right for step-by-step melting instructions.

Once the soap is melted, remove from the microwave and add a few drops of fragrance. Start out with 8-10 drops, stir and see if you want more. Probably shouldn’t go over 25 drops for 5 cubes.

Next, add liquid color, a few drops at a time while stirring, until you get a color you like. Color goes a long way in clear soap so start with a drop or two. Remember you can mix colors to get cool shades.

Pour the melted soap into the square shape of the mold, filling it to the top. If you get some air bubbles you can spritz with alcohol and they’ll go away. (You can fill the other shapes to save time if you are doing more than one color).

Let this soap chill out now. It will probably take about 30-40 minutes for it to harden. It should be cool to the touch before you try to remove it from the mold. Once it has completely cooled, release the soap by applying constant, even pressure with thumbs to the backside of the mold.

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You may need to gently pull one side of mold away from the soap bar to break the air seal and apply, even pressure to back.

Take your clear soap, put it on a cutting board and carefully cut it into different shaped chunks around a 1/2 to 3/4 inch pieces. Put aside for now.

Finishing the Bar
You probably can make at least two bars with the chunks you cut up. So take about 5 cubes of WHITE soap, melt and add fragrance just as you did the clear. If you want your white soap to have a color, add one two drops to give it just a hint of color.

Pour a small amount of melted soap into two of the cavities of the mold, just enough to cover the bottom, and then spray this white layer with alcohol. Put the melted white soap aside for just a minute. Back to your chunks. Spray your chunks with alcohol. Then pick up about half of the chunks in one hand and the white soap in the other, and slowly drop a few chunks at a time into one of the mold cavities while pouring white soap. Keep doing this until the mold is full. Take the other half of the chunks and do the same thing in the second cavity. Give both a few last spritz of alcohol just to close the deal.

Remember waiting for the clear soap to harden and then un-molding? We have to do that now with these bars. Once these are hard and you have them out of the mold (and if you are good with a knife) you can try CAREFULLY shaving a little of the soap from the front with a paring knife to get more vibrant color.

To keep it fresh until you’re ready to use or gift it, wrap the soap in plastic wrap, pulling it tight and snug, in the back of the soap bar. Use scissors to remove excess plastic wrap. You can decorate with strips of scrapbook paper and ribbon.
**Basic Melting**

**Prepare**

Depending on your project, decide how much clear and/or white soap you will need. Most of our molds are between 3-4 ounces. Each cube in a two pound tray is roughly 1 ounce. Cut desired amount of soap brick into cubes, and place into a microwave-safe measuring cup.

Have your fragrance, color and mold ready at hand. You will want your mold cavity side up. Depending on the mold you choose, you may need to put a spoon or even grab some caps off a few soda bottles to help steady the mold. This way when you pour the soap in later it won’t run all over...which brings up another point, feel free to cover your work area with brown paper bags or paper towels. It is soap and cleans up with water but still, less mess is best.

**Microwave**

You’re ready to microwave. Soap melts at a pretty low temperature and once it starts it goes quick! It can get really hot so please, please be careful. Place the microwave-safe measuring cup into microwave and heat for 30 seconds, remove and stir to break up the bigger blobs. Repeat this now in 10 and then 5 second intervals until soap is completely melted. Keep an eye on it, if it starts to bubble up, its too hot. If this happens, turn off the microwave, let it cool, (the cup should be warm, not burning hot to the touch) remove, stir, and place back in microwave if necessary to finish the melting process.

**Pour & Remove**

Take your melted soap and slowly pour it into a mold cavity. You want to fill it all the way to the “top” this will help you when you de-mold the soap. If you want really pretty soap, you can spritz it with alcohol to remove the bubbles. Let it cool, and be patient. It can take over an hour to dry. If its warm to the touch, its not ready. Once it’s cool, flip the mold over and start to apply constant, even pressure with thumbs to the backside of the mold. You may need to gently pull one side of mold away from the soap bar to break air seal. It takes a little practice, but you’ll get the hang of it. After you admire your work, go ahead and wrap it tightly in plastic wrap to keep the moisture in until you are ready to use it or gift it!

**Tips, Tricks, Technique**

- Use rubbing alcohol to remove air bubbles, adhere layers to one another and to spray objects you want to embed in the soap to prevent air pockets. The alcohol evaporates from the heat of the soap so there is little residue.
- You can re-melt soap, so save mistakes, scraps and extras. Just be mindful of the fragrances and start at 5-10 second intervals when re-melting.
- Do not move molds until soap has begun to set or you can create wrinkles in your soap. If this happens, try to remove them by spraying rubbing alcohol over the wrinkle.
- When layering colors, allow a layer of skin to form on the poured soap to prevent layered colors from bleeding into each other. Test the layer with the tip of your finger by gently touching the soap - it should not wiggle, should not be hot and should feel slightly firm to completely firm.
- Soap can take anywhere from 30-90 minutes to harden so don’t rush it. If it is still warm to the touch it should not be un-molded yet. It also sets up quicker when you put it in the refrigerator once it solidifies.

HAVE FUN AND EXPERIMENT ON YOUR OWN!