

Havdalah Spice Satchet



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The Havdalah service marks the end of Shabbat. It should be performed no earlier than nightfall on Saturday night. Nightfall is the time when three stars can be seen in the sky. The first of the four havdalah blessings is made over wine. The second blessing is recited over fragrant spices. The spices represent a compensation for the loss of the special Sabbath spirit. The spices commonly used are cloves, cinnamon or bay leaves. They are commonly kept in a special decorated holder called a b'samim box. The third blessing is recited over the special, multi-wicked Havdalah candle. The final blessing is the havdalah blessing itself, the blessing over the separation of different things. <http://www.jewfaq.org/prayer/havdalah.htm>

Purchase 4x6 inch muslin drawstring bags (source www.organzabagg.com)

Purchase fabric paints, colored markers, stamps (www.michaels.com, www.tuesdaymorning.com or other art supply stores in your area.

Purchase 4x6 index cards.

Place an index card inside of each bag. This will keep the paint applied to the front of the piece from “bleeding” onto the back of the piece. This should not be removed until the paints/inks are completely dry.

Decorate with freehand painting, sponge and stencils, stamps or other methods. This can represent the spices that will reside within or just be decorative.

When piece is dry remove the index card and fill the bag with a cinnamon stick, some cloves and any other fragrant spices that will remind you of your sweet Shabbat and help you transition to the new week.