

MYSTERIOUS AFAN CUDD

CANDLEMAKER



Young Man Reading by Candlelight Artist Matthew Stom
(Nationalmuseum, Stockholm).

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Matthias_stom_young_man_reading_by_candlelight.jpg#file

In the Middle Ages there was no electric light, or gas – so for light at night or in the winter, people relied on candles.

Candles were mostly made from animal fats, and tallow from cows or sheep. They would be put into metal holders fixed to walls, or candlesticks that could be carried about.

The candlemaker had to know how to melt down the animal fat to make the tallow, as well as how to make the candles.



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Candle_makers%27_workshop;interior_view,_process_of_making_ca_Wellcome_V0023724.jpg

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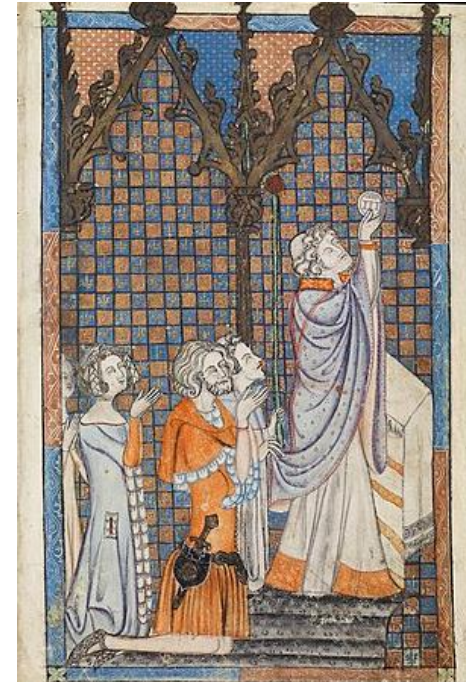


Votive Candles

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<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=51315382>

In the later Middle Ages, people started to use beeswax – it burnt pure and cleanly without making a smoky flame.

But not everyone could afford it, as beeswax was scarce. Beeswax candles could only be afforded by the rich, and for some churches and royal events.



Anonymous Artist: Leaf from the Book of Hours. Walters Art Museum
https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/05/English_-_Leaf_from_Book_of_Hours_-_Walters_W10515R.jpg

Text adapted from:
<https://medievalbritain.com/category/type/medieval-life/occupations/>