

The Use Of Perfumery And Aromas In Making Incense Sticks



Everybody loves the smell of agarbattis and dhoops that we light while worshipping. It creates a mystical aura and calms our moods. The use of incense sticks can be traced to Ayurvedic times. Fragrances and aromas play an important role in the manufacturing of any incense stick or dhoops that we use at our houses. The word 'incense' and perfume can be used interchangeably since they both mean pleasant smell. The sawdust is absorbent and retains fragrance well.

Incense sticks are made from bamboo sticks, wood sawdust, water and of course aromatic oils. The base material is a natural substance which can be burnt but the fragrance that attracts everybody comes from fragrance and aromatic oils. The synthetic substances are used to give incense sticks that pleasant fragrance. The base is applied to the bamboo stick and later rolled into flavouring substance and dipped into a scented solvent.



The bundles of incense sticks are selected for a particular fragrance, and the ends are painted with colours unique to that fragrance for colour-coding. There are various kinds of oils that can be used to create agarbattis and dhoops but popular fragrances are manufactured in large numbers. The aromatic oils are extracted from naturally aromatic plants and mixed with an oil base, or synthesized chemically in laboratories. Burning of the essential or aromatic oils releases the oils locked in the dried resin. Different types of fragrances that can be used in making incense sticks like sandalwood, vanilla, rose, strawberry, mogra, lily, lavender, champa, camphor and many more.

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