



Make Ice Lanterns



Frosty lights for wintry nights

These magical lights are super-easy to make and look beautiful. If it's cold enough, make them outside. If not, your freezer is your friend. Use them to line an outdoor path in winter, to light-up a garden feast, or pop a selection along your garden wall at Diwali, Christmas or Hanukkah.

YOU WILL NEED

- ✓ Round plastic containers or tins of varying sizes
- ✓ Water
- ✓ A freezer or a cold, cold night
- ✓ Tea lights (real or LED)
- ✓ Sticky tape
- ✓ Weights, or a few small stones and rocks
- ✓ Twigs, berries, leaves, small shells or stones
- ✓ Scissors

Ice Magic

Why not freestyle? Try using small toys, game pieces or glittery bits to make your candle holders brighter and sillier. Experiment with food colouring in the water to create lanterns in rainbow shades.

1. Choose your plastic containers wisely. You'll need one larger, and one smaller (but still big enough to fit a tea light into comfortably).
2. Put a small amount of water into the larger plastic container –fill until it's about 5cm deep.
3. Put weights or rocks into the smaller container and place it into the first. It should float but not tip over. Carefully secure in place using sticky tape.
4. Cut the leaves and twigs if needed and poke the decorations between the two containers.
5. Add more water until it's about 5cm from the top.
6. Put the containers into your freezer or outside if it's cold enough and leave overnight.
7. Check the lantern has frozen solid, remove the tape and turn out. Run warm water over the outside of the container to help things get moving.
8. Put your lantern onto a plate to catch any drips, place a tea-light inside, and light it.