



# DIY Swirly Letter or Shape Crayons

by Emily Steffen

### MATERIALS

- Old broken crayons (or new ones you want to use up or repurpose)
- A letter mold OR cookie cutters + tinfoil + cookie sheet
- Knife to get paper off (or lots of fingernail determination) :)
- Optional: cooking spray for cookie cutters



### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 170°F
2. Unwrap all all crayons. It is even a great idea to send kids on a hunt around the house to find all of the crayons (broken, whole, hiding in the couch cushions, etc. This doesn't have to be a box of new crayons (yay for clearing clutter, eh?)
3. If you are using a mold, simply take out your mold.

If you are using cookie cutters, line the bottoms with aluminum foil. Do this by cutting a piece that is about double the size of your cookie cutter and then fold up the sides of the aluminum foil to the sides of the cutter while doing your best to keep the bottom foil flat on the inside of the cookie cutter! The point of this is to be sure that your wax doesn't ooze out from under the edges of the cookie cutter if your pan warps in the oven (which all of ours inevitably do).

**TIP:** Spray with cookie cutter with cooking spray if desired (sometimes this is helpful if you want to be sure the crayons don't stick to the foil). This step is 100% unnecessary if using a silicone mold (in fact, it's discouraged).

4. Have kids break up the crayons and fill the cookie cutters. Don't overfill, but make sure they are full of happy, fun colors



5. Place in oven for 10-13 minutes (the time depends on how thick of a layer of crayons you have)
6. Let cool, and start "punching" them out.

**TIP:** If using a cookie cutter, it helps to hold the cutter in your hand and push, with your thumbs, upwards around the edge of the letter (or shape). Once it's loosened from the cutter and all of the excess is off, you can then gently push down. I found that if you begin popping them out by pushing downward, some of the crayon can still be stuck and the letter will break!

7. Color, play with them and do a dance party in the kitchen!

