CRAFTS

Luminaries

epsom salt
CRAFTED LIGHT JARS

Epsom salt isn't just for baths; it also makes a beautiful, sparkling coating for homemade glass jar luminaries. When dyed with food coloring and glued to the outside of a jar, the salt creates a frosted, crystal-like finish that softly glows when a candle or LED light is placed inside. This easy craft is perfect for kids (with supervision) and makes lovely seasonal or holiday decorations.

Ingredients

- Epsom salt
- Food coloring (any color)
- White school glue or craft glue
- Glass jars (mason jars or recycled jars)
- Small bowls or zip-top bags (for mixing color)
- Spoon (for stirring)
- Paper plates or tray (to catch excess salt)
- Paintbrush (optional, for spreading glue)
- Tea light candles or battery-operated LED lights

Instructions

1. Dye the Epsom Salt
   - Pour Epsom salt into a bowl or zip-top bag.
   - Add a few drops of food coloring.
   - Stir or shake until the color is evenly distributed.
   - Spread the salt out on a plate or tray and allow it to dry completely.
2. Prepare the Jar
   - Make sure the outside of the jar is clean and dry.
   - Brush or spread a thin, even layer of glue onto the outside surface of the jar.
3. Add the Salt Coating
   - Roll the glued jar in the dyed Epsom salt or sprinkle salt over it until fully covered.
   - Gently press the salt onto the surface to help it adhere.
   - Let the jar dry completely (several hours or overnight).

How to Use

- Once dry, place a tea light or battery-operated LED candle inside the jar. When lit, the light shines through the salt crystals, creating a soft, glowing effect. Arrange multiple luminaries together for a colorful centerpiece, line them along a walkway, or use them as festive décor for holidays and special occasions.

Safety tip: Always use battery-operated candles with children, and never leave real candles unattended.