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Introduction

This guidance document has been produced in collaboration with The British Candlemakers Federation and Cornwall Council's Trading Standards Service. It is primarily designed for makers of candles, diffusers and wax melts as an overview of applicable legal requirements and best practice. It is not possible to include everything within this guide that may apply to every aspect of your product and/or business, nor can any topic be given in any great depth of detail so please contact your local Trading Standards Service for specific support and advice.

Although there is not a 'Candle Regulation' as such, there are numerous pieces of legislation, along with several British, European and International Standards that do apply to candles, diffusers and wax melts making it a rather complex area of law to follow and whether candles are fragranced/scented or not will determine how much of the law applies to your products. The primary legislation and Standards applicable to candles and similar products are:

- The General Product Safety Regulations 2005 (GPSR).
- European Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 on the classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures (as amended) (CLP).
- BS EN 15426: 2018 Candles – Specification for sooting behaviour.
- BS EN 15493: 2019 Candles – Specification for fire safety.
- BS EN 15494: 2019 Candles – Product safety labels
- UK REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals).
- EU REACH (if supplying Northern Ireland and/or EU).

The table below is a quick reference guide as to which of the above apply to which product type.

Product Type	GPSR	CLP	Standards	REACH
Unscented Candles	✓	X	✓	✓
Scented Candles	✓	✓	✓	✓
Reed Diffusers	✓	✓	X	✓
Wax Melts	✓	✓	X	✓

As a candle maker or importer, it is your responsibility, before the product is placed on the market, to:

- know which Regulations and Standards apply to your product(s),
- Ensure that your product(s) is/are safe and comply with all applicable regulations, laws and best practice.

In addition to the Standards listed above, there are others but these tend to be for more in-depth study or particular applications, such as outdoor candles.

Standards may be purchased from the [British Standards Institute](#). Alternatively, the same documents can often be purchased from EU member states at a significantly reduced cost. A list of the national standardisation bodies can be found [here](#).

The great majority of candles are very safe and will likely never cause an uncontrolled fire. Whilst the rate of candle fires is typically low, fires still occur. On average, there are approximately 1000 fires per year which can be attributed to candles and whilst some are due to faulty or sub-standard candles, in the vast majority of cases, such incidents are generally caused by customer misuse¹. Therefore it is vital that candle makers not only know how to ensure their products do not cause such an incident, but also provide clear warnings and instructions to consumers for their safe use.

Fire Damage

It is the supplier's (your) responsibility to inform and educate the consumer as to the potential risks with using the candle they have bought. This will be a combination of images, information and guidance in a variety of forms as to how to use a candle safely. There are specific things that must be included on the candle/package but supplementary information on a website or social media to aid consumers is encouraged.

There are many different factors that can contribute towards candle fires. This document exists to highlight some of the known (and possible) contributing factors.

It may be that you will first learn that you have a candle fire problem when there is a spike in customer complaints. Unfortunately it is often difficult to determine if a particular candle has an elevated risk. The actual candle fire complaints may only be observed in an exceedingly low number of candles sold. Even so, just one candle fire is a cause for concern – for the customer, the manufacturer and the industry.

There may not be a single reason why a particular candle might catch fire. It may well have been the result of a combination of factors. Attempts should be made to reduce these risk factors.

- Secondary Ignition - This is a common cause of candle fires. Contaminants in the wax pool can act as secondary wicks, increasing the amount of flame present, leading to the whole wax pool catching fire.
- Matchsticks thrown into the wax pool are obviously a danger and may be found in the bottom of the candle if it is returned by a customer. Another possible contaminant is fluff/dust if the candle has been left for several months before burning. This is particularly a concern for gel wax candles that have a sticky surface so hair and dust etc. may adhere to the surface.
- Manufacturer-added inclusions such as seeds, petals, dried fruit, crystals etc. are very obviously risky. Especially if they float on the wax pool surface.
- There are pillar candles on the market that are made with botanical inclusions at the sides of the candle. These pillar candles are designed to 'tunnel' – the wax at the edges stays solid. As a result the botanical inclusions should stay embedded in the wax and never come near the flame. Any such candle where the botanicals can get near to the flame are unsafe.

Fragrances - These can often play a role. The wax will catch fire when the temperature of the wax pool reaches the flashpoint (FP), when a significant ignitable vapour/air mixture is formed. Waxes alone typically have a high flash point (e.g. ~200°C) but the addition of fragrance can significantly lower the flash point. The flash point of the fragrance-wax mix cannot be calculated or estimated. It can only be determined by instrumental analysis in a lab. It is possible for a small amount of fragrance to significantly lower the FP e.g. 2.5% fragrance with a FP of 70°C addition to a wax with a FP of 200°C can bring the FP of the mixture closer to 90°C

¹ [Fire statistics data tables - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/fire-statistics)

- Low flash point fragrances increase the likelihood of candle fires. Fragrances that are flammable (flashpoint <60°C) should be avoided. The flashpoint can be found in Section 9 of the fragrance MSDS.
- Candle fires are more likely with high fragrance content.
- Candle sweating. Related to the fragrance content, volatility and where stored/used. There may be a thin film of fragrance on the surface of the wax.
- Some fragrances are more prone to clubbing. This may lead to bigger flames and/or carbon deposits in the wax pool.
- It is not unknown for customers to add essential oils to the wax pool to 'boost' a candle.

Sustainers - candle fires sometimes occur when the flame reaches the bottom of the container and the small amount of wax remaining is heated to higher temperatures. Any contaminants in the wax pool are also more likely to catch fire at this point. This is why many manufacturers recommend that customers do not burn the last ~1cm of wax. However, the likelihood of customers reading the instructions and doing so is remote. It is much better to engineer the safety into the candle by using tall (5 – 11 mm) sustainers.

- Taller sustainers result in the flame extinguishing before the flame reaches the bottom of the candle.
- It is important that the sustainer is glued to the bottom of the container. Otherwise, wax can get in under the sustainer and be carried up the wick, defeating the object of using a taller sustainer.
- Care should be taken when crimping the wicks that no holes are made in the neck of the sustainer. Otherwise, wax can enter the hole and the wick will continue to burn.
- The crimping should be sufficient to prevent the wick from falling over.
- Many large producers and retailers changed to 5 – 7mm sustainers many years ago for safety reasons.

Multi-Wick Container Candles - Using too large a wick in a candle will obviously increase the risk of a candle fire. However, this is even more so for multi-wick candles. As more heat is generated in the container, there is more chance of a candle fire. Try to use the smallest wick that will give a good burn. The wicks should be firmly glued in place. The glue should not unstick and allow the wicks to move towards each other. The bottom of multi-wick containers are generally slightly concave and wicks that unglue will drift towards the centre of the container. This can lead to a build-up of heat in the middle of the candle.

Candle holders - Sometimes a candle fire, particularly tealights, can occur because of a candle holder. There are a number of reasons that this may occur:

- The candle holder is unsafe and is itself flammable.
- The candle holder (e.g. wax melter or tealight holder) retains too much heat and the whole candle catches fire.
- Customer misuse. E.g. the customer placed multiple tealights in a holder designed for a single tealight, or multiple tealights without sufficient spacing.

'Explosions'- Other incidents may initially sound like a candle fire but are actually quite different. These are often described as 'explosions'. These are typically a result of the glassware breaking and are most likely to occur at the end of a burn. Heat from the flame can set up thermal stresses in the glass that result in the glass shattering. Pieces of glass can travel a metre or more. This can occur if the wick falls against the glass (usually votives). To avoid glass breakages, ensure the glass/ceramic is suitable for candles. Can your glass supplier provide you with an annealing certificate? Has the glass had any thermal shock testing?

General Candle Safety

Product safety legislation requires manufacturers, importers and distributors to place only safe products on the marketplace, provide information and warnings as to the risks posed by the product(s) and to provide consumer instructions as to the safe operation and use of the product. The law that applies to the overall safety of all goods is the General Product Safety Regulations 2005 (GPSR). There are many elements to ensuring that your products are safe before being placed on the market and whilst safety testing is important, there is much more to the process, which is explored in more detail throughout this guidance. GPSR requires you, the manufacturer, to take **all** reasonable precautions and **all** due diligence to avoid placing unsafe products on the market which means more than simply conducting a test. More information on due diligence can be found here [Product safety: due diligence | Business Companion](#)

Safety testing plan

For larger manufacturers with the skills, knowledge and equipment to do so, most safety testing is conducted in-house following their quality management system, including GPSR requirements and against the three European standards. Smaller producers may wish to submit product samples for external laboratory testing where the burning characteristics can be assessed under a series of controlled laboratory conditions, however much of the tests and their methods set out in BS EN 15493: 2019 can be reproduced relatively easily by even the smaller producers. Safety testing is scalable, so larger producers are expected to test (and keep records of) more samples. Records and test house certificates of safety testing should form part of the technical file. Before releasing a new product onto the market, you are under a legal obligation to assess it for safety and the standard requires three samples to be tested. For products you already have on the market you will need an ongoing monitoring process with periodic random sample safety testing. To do no safety assessments or testing at all will not demonstrate due diligence has been undertaken, so you will have no defence if an incident occurs, or a breach is identified. To assist producers who have never undertaken in-house safety testing before, we have developed a template for reference for adapting to suit your particular needs which can be found in Annex I.

Of course, ensuring the safety of your products involves more than simply testing them once they have been produced. The management of internal systems and supply chains are vital in the delivery of safe products to consumers. PAS 7050:2022 *Bringing safe products to the market* is a publicly available specification (PAS) published by the British Standards Institute (BSI) and sponsored by the Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS). This document is free to [download](#) and aims to support businesses in complying with their relevant legal duties relating to placing safe products on the market. It provides a set of recommendations, guidelines and examples of good practice, with a particular focus on the preparation of a product safety management plan.

Risk Assessment

A product risk assessment should be completed and documented at the very beginning of the product design stage and be continually reviewed and updated throughout the entire product development process. A Risk Assessment is the process by which the level of risk associated with a particular hazard(s) is/are identified. Where risks are identified as intolerable or unacceptable, measures must be taken to eliminate, reduce or control the risk. Such measures may include making a change to eliminate the risk, if possible, but

also include the provision of warnings and instructions to end users to reduce the risk where it cannot be eliminated.

BS EN 15493:2019 identifies several physical safety requirements such as stability, secondary ignition, flame height etc but if your candles are fragranced there may be additional risks presented by the use of chemicals that must also be assessed. This British and European Standard is concerned with fire safety and as such applies to all candles, whether they are fragranced or not.

PAS 7050 provides some guidance on product risk assessments but further information on Product Risk Assessment Methodology can be found here - [Product Safety Risk Assessment Methodology \(PRISM\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/product-risk-assessment-methodology-prism)

CLP & REACH Overview

European Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 on the classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures (as amended), otherwise known as 'the CLP Regulation' is the main piece of legislation applicable to scented candles, reed diffusers and wax melts. One of the main aims is to determine whether a substance or mixture displays properties that lead to a hazardous classification and how this should be communicated further down the supply chain. Scented candles, reed diffusers and wax melts are all considered to be 'mixtures' as they are blends of wax, fragrance, colours etc.

The REACH Regulations require the supplier of a substance or mixture (or preparation in REACH) to supply the recipient of the substance or mixture with a Safety Data Sheet (SDS).

Safety Data Sheets

Suppliers' duties for safety data sheets and CLP labelling only apply if a mixture has hazardous properties (as defined in the CLP regulation) or where it contains certain hazardous components above specified concentrations. These duties, in general, apply to small scale home-based suppliers in the same way they apply to larger scale suppliers and industry. When you are considering what information should be on a label or whether one is in fact needed you will notice that the requirements are very much dependent on the substances used in the candles and their respective hazard classification. **This has to be determined separately for each of your candle formulations individually, as they will each have different mixture formulations.**

The main concern for candles is likely to come from the fragrances used. In particular, a number of common fragrances are classified as 'sensitisers' (i.e., they can cause allergic reactions) and this can manifest at very low concentrations. For mixtures containing substances that are classified as sensitisers at a concentration of 0.1% or above, there will generally be a requirement to include some information about this hazard on the label of the product. For example, this could include the use of the statement 'Contains (Name of sensitising substance). May produce an allergic reaction'. Such a statement serves to warn users who are already sensitised to a particular substance. If a sensitising substance was present at higher concentrations (generally higher than 1%) the entire mixture would be classified as a sensitiser and would need to carry a pictogram (e.g., the exclamation mark symbol), a hazard statement (e.g., May cause an allergic skin reaction) and precautionary statements about safe use. For particularly potent sensitisers, these requirements can be triggered when the substance is present at even lower levels (i.e., 0.01% for the special warning and 0.1% for classification of the mixture respectively). Also, a small number of substances have a concentration limit that is specific to them and this may differ to the values noted above. These latter two points are not common and it is

most likely that the 0.1 and 1% limits will be applicable in the vast majority of cases and will be what you need to consider.

Buying pre-mix fragrances will make life **a lot** easier than developing your own blends, as your fragrance supplier **must** provide you with the CLP data you need on the Safety Data Sheet (SDS). Substances can be classified for other hazards (e.g., skin irritation, eye irritation, hazardous to the aquatic environment etc.). This will be based on the **concentration of the substance in the final candle mixture**.

It is vital that you obtain a Safety Data Sheet from your supplier that is applicable to your fragrance in the proportion used in your product. For example, if you are using 10% fragrance as a proportion of the final product, you should have a Safety Data Sheet that contains information related to the hazards when using the substance in that proportion. The SDS for 100% fragrance will include hazards that are unlikely to be present in the final product when the proportion of the fragrance is much lower.

Unscented candles are different - If the candle does not contain any ingredients that are classified as hazardous then there is no requirement for it to be labelled in accordance with CLP. The waxes used in candles, and readily available in bulk from your suppliers are unlikely to be classified as hazardous, it is the fragrances that should be focussed on. Further information is available on the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) website; <http://echa.europa.eu/web/guest/guidance-documents/guidance-on-clp>. There is an introductory guidance document and a document on labelling and packaging which suppliers might find useful. There is also a document on the application of the CLP classification criteria, but this is a comprehensive technical guidance document.

As a candle maker, you must receive information about the ingredients you use from your suppliers. For example you are entitled (free of charge) to a SDS for any identified potentially hazardous components, containing information on the hazard classification of the ingredients. Selling directly to consumers does not require you to produce or pass on SDS to them; the label will give all the consumer information required. If you are not supplying directly to the end user, for instance if you supply candles to hotels or cafes, then a SDS will have to be produced and provided by you to the retailer for each formulation you supply.

If you require further assistance on CLP, labelling and SDS production, see the 'further sources of help' sections below.

Labelling

There are two, separate but equally important, sets of rules when it comes to the information required to be supplied on a product label. These are:

- Fire safety warnings or symbols provided for in BS EN 15494: 2019, and
- Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures (CLP Regulation).

Scented or fragranced candles are required to be labelled according to both sets of rules whilst un-fragranced candles will only need to display the fire safety information. This is because the CLP requirements address the hazards presented by the use of the fragrances and apply whether the fragrances used are natural or synthetic.

Diffusers and wax melts will all contain fragrances and as such the CLP requirements apply but the fire safety warnings only apply to candles.

Producing a product safety label is not an isolated process and is intrinsically linked to the previous sections regarding safety testing and risk assessment. During the risk assessment and safety testing process, certain hazards will be identified, and, through corrective actions, some will be eliminated or reduced to a tolerable level. However, it is likely that some hazards will remain and therefore must be addressed by the use of warnings and information provided on the label. It will not always be possible or desirable to include all warnings for all potential hazards, so the risk assessment process is vital in determining which hazards pose the greatest risk and should be included on the label.

BS EN 15494:2019 Candles – Product Safety Labels

This British and European Standard requires that a candle label consists of specific components:

- The general warning sign based upon ISO 7010 – W001, see table 1, Annex III
- Mandatory supplementary safety information symbols OR text, see table 1, Annex III
- Additional mandatory supplemental safety information for specific candle types, see tables 2 and 3, Annex III
- Optional supplementary safety information symbols OR text, see table 4, Annex III
- Additional optional supplementary safety information symbols OR text, for specific candle types, see table 5, Annex III

It is important to ensure that you only use the symbols or text that are most applicable to your product. Having too many symbols or warnings on your label is just as ineffective as not having enough: if there are too many, users are unlikely to absorb the message that the warning is designed to convey.

CLP Labelling Requirements

In addition to the above requirements set out BS EN 15494:2019, the main Regulation applicable to fragranced or scented candles is the Classification, Labelling and Packaging (CLP) Regulation. Article 17 of the CLP Regulation sets out the following labelling requirements:

1. The name, address and telephone number of the supplier (supplier means any manufacturer, importer or distributor).
2. The nominal quantity (e.g., weight mark in grams (g) for candles and wax melts and volume indication in millilitres (ml) for diffusers, excluding the weight of any container or packaging).
3. Product identifier, i.e., the name of the product that allows it to be properly identified and should relate to the information provided on the safety data sheet applicable to the product. If the Product Identifier section of the SDS includes 'Contains.....' this must be duplicated in full on the product label.
4. Hazard pictograms, as provided in the product's safety data sheet.
5. Signal words as specified in the safety data sheet.
6. Relevant hazard statements, as specified in the safety data sheet, unless there is clear duplication or redundancy.
7. Appropriate precautionary statements, as specified in the safety data sheet. Where there is clear duplication or redundancy such statements shall be omitted. No more

than 6 precautionary statements should appear on the label unless necessary to reflect the nature and severity of the hazards.

8. Where applicable, supplemental information, as provided for in the safety data sheet.

All of the information required in points 3 -8 above can be found in sections 1 & 2 of the Safety Data Sheet for the fragrance used in your candle.

Please see Annex II for diagrams illustrating where the necessary information can be found on a typical Safety Data Sheet and an example label containing both the CLP information and the fire safety symbol

The Format and Position of the Labelling

In terms of CLP labelling, the labels of hazardous substances and mixtures have to be firmly affixed to the packaging that immediately contains the hazardous substance or mixture. If this is not possible due to an awkward shape or small size, it's possible to apply the labels in alternative ways - including the use of tie or tags, fold-out labels or by providing full information on outer packaging (e.g., the box) with minimal information on the inner packaging. How you apply your labels will therefore depend on how you package them and what labelling information is required. Guidance on labelling is provided here: <https://echa.europa.eu/regulations/clp/labelling>.

The position for the other safety label which relates to compliance with the European Standards and GPSR is not specified by law in the same way, however the standard requires it is visible and legible on the packaging or the product. In specific cases where the legally required information cannot fit on the label other options are available. In these cases, please review the ECHA CLP Guidance. If you are using warnings to mitigate any risk, to be effective they must be visible. Your batch number label for traceability can be anywhere on the product or packaging.

Technical File

You should start building up files of essential information relating to product formulations. Such records have to be kept for a minimum of 6 years. These records may be electronic. Some ideas on what this documentation could contain are: a description and formula for each product in your range; raw material purchase and finished product sales records; documentation to meet income tax requirements; risk assessments; SDS; labelling/packaging details; safety testing plan; traceability documents; customer complaints and recall procedures. Technical files must be made available for inspection by Trading Standards or other 'market surveillance authorities'.

Product Claims

Great care should be exercised with candle or diffuser products intended to repel mosquitos, midges, etc. Insect repellents are controlled by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE), and must be a registered product. If your candle or diffuser is not an HSE registered product you cannot describe it as an insect repellent or imply it performs such a function. Even candle packaging containing pictures of insects is likely to be considered misleading as it falsely implies a link between using the product and actively repelling insects.

The CLP Regulations (Article 25(4)) also prohibits statements such as 'non-toxic', 'non-harmful', 'non-polluting', 'ecological' or any other statements indicating that the

product is not hazardous or any other statements that are inconsistent with the classification of the product.

Websites

If you are selling candles online then you must provide certain information about who you are and where you are based, as well as specific information relating to your products. Consumers purchasing goods from a website have a statutory right to return the goods for a refund and as such information as to how a consumer exercises this right must also be provided. Full Government guidance on these Regulations is available [here](#).

CLP information must also be provided on your websites due to being classified as an 'advertisement'. CLP Article 48(1) outlines the information which must be provided in an advertisement for a substance classified as hazardous. The advertisement shall contain the hazard class and/or the applicable hazard categories, as appropriate, e.g. acute oral toxicity category 3. A full copy (i.e. photograph/PDF) of the CLP information from each of your product labels would be the easiest way to comply. The basic rule of thumb is 'if it appears on the product label, it should also appear on your website'.

Unique Formulation Identifiers (UFIs) Poison Centre Notifications (PCNs)

Great Britain

For products sold in Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) there is no requirement for a UFI or PCN, there is a voluntary requirement to submit the product SDS to the UK National Poison Information Service (www.NPIS.org) by email to sds.npis@nhs.net. This alone, does not in itself mean that a given product is approved for sale as there are many other regulations that may apply. The voluntary submission of an SDS is part of that process.

Northern Ireland

For products sold into Northern Ireland, currently they **DO** require a UFI and associated PCN. However, in order to obtain a UFI, you must be, or have access to a NI or EU based legal entity as it requires a valid VAT number to generate the UFI. Then you can obtain a UFI from the following link [UFI Generator \(europa.eu\)](http://UFI_Generator.europa.eu). GB based companies cannot generate UFIs anymore as we are outside of the EU.

The UFI must be displayed on the packaging, clearly visible and legible and it must be preceded by the capital letters UFI and be followed by the 16 digit code. Ideally it should be easy to locate on the item (e.g. near the hazard pictograms or barcode).

During the lifetime of the product, if there is a significant change to either the labelling or the composition of the product then either an updated PCN or a new PCN should be performed.

Unsafe Products & Product Recalls

If at any point you become aware that a product you have placed on the market, or have supplied, "poses risks to the consumer that are incompatible with the general safety requirement" then you have a legal duty to notify Trading Standards. As part of your due diligence you will review all customer feedback and complaints.

In dialogue with you, Trading Standards will help assess the risk and the appropriate response as well as ensure the Government notification duty is correctly followed. If the risk is deemed to be serious the Trading Standards authority will create a notification on the UK's Product Safety Database, and discuss recall procedures with you.

GPSR requires you to have sufficient "measures" in place to, if necessary, effect a product recall, and we advise you to be aware of your legal notification, risk assessment and recall obligations before an event occurs. You therefore need to prepare a procedure which can be added to your technical file. It will allow for a faster response time when an incident occurs.

PAS 7100:2022 *Product recall and other corrective actions. Code of Practice* is available to [download](#) free of charge and will help you prepare to plan for, and deal with, a product recall quickly and effectively resulting in a significant reduction in the expense of a recall and the stress caused. PAS 7100 goes hand-in-hand with PAS 7050 (mentioned above in Safety Testing Plan section) and it is highly recommended that both documents be used together by businesses of all shapes and sizes.

Imitation Foods

Candles which could be mistakenly eaten by children or present a choking hazard would be subject to the Food Imitations Safety Regulations 1989. The CLP Regulations also places a ban on the *shape or design likely to attract or arouse the active curiosity of children or to mislead consumers, or to have a similar presentation or a design used for foodstuff or animal feeding stuff or medicinal or cosmetic products, which would mislead consumers.*

Our advice is simple: do not make candles, or any associated product, that look like food or are likely to attract the curiosity of children.

Intellectual Property and Protected Food Names

When considering the name and brand for your business and naming the range of products, it is important to ensure intellectual property belonging to others is not infringed. This would include designs, patents, copyrighted material and trademarks. To use a brand belonging to another, you must seek agreement from them and enter into a licensing arrangement. There are helpful online resources which explain more about these forms of protection and where you can search the trade mark register. See <http://www.ipo.gov.uk> for further information. Also as your brand builds you may consider protecting your own logos and brand names in the same way.

Similarly, some food and drink names are protected and must not be used on candles, or any other products. 'Prosecco' and 'Champagne' are both examples of protected names that must not be used, but there are many more registered names in the UK and EU that must be avoided. More information on protected food and drink names can be found [here](#).

Further Sources of Help

Expert consultants can be helpful for producing or interpreting safety data sheets, checking chemicals are appropriate (not on the 'banned' list), helping produce legally compliant labels, helping with Poisons Centre Notifications and providing advice on packaging and positioning of labels. Industry forums between candle producers may also be a supportive group. The British Candlemakers Federation is a recommended source of industry support and provides additional benefits to members.

The British Candlemakers Federation

The BCF represents UK and ROI candle manufacturers and their suppliers. Together, its members represent more than half of the candle production within the UK. Benefits include:

- Latest information on the development of CEN standards and developing European General Product Safety Directive (GPSD) legislation.
- Up-to-date information on any changes to EU and GB CLP regulations.
- A forum for the exchange of technical information and experience.
- The BCF usually holds an informal meeting at NEC in the margins of the Spring Fair in February. Its annual conference and AGM is generally held in May/June each year.

The BCF is a member of the European Candle Manufacturers Association. The ECMA, is the collective voice of European candle makers and their suppliers. It promotes the safe use and enjoyment of candles, and it makes sure that the candle makers' interests are heard and understood. The BCF is an active member of the ECMA and contributes to the development of standards and lobbying in response to legislation changes.

Further information may be found at www.britishcandles.org. Membership of the BCF is open to candle makers and suppliers to the candle industry that are based in the UK and Ireland.

Trading Standards Services

Your local Trading Standards Service may be able to offer you valuable advice and support to help you ensure that your products are safe and legally compliant. You can use a postcode to find which Trading Standards Service covers your area [here](#) but please be aware that due to different local authorities experiencing different resource pressures, not all Trading Standards Services may be in a position to help. In such circumstances, it is highly recommended that you contact the BCF.

Further Online Resources

GPSR legislation: [The General Product Safety Regulations 2005](#)

GPSR Guidance notes: [Product safety advice for businesses - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

E-Commerce Regulations: [The Electronic Commerce \(EC Directive\) Regulations 2002](#)

Food imitations guidance: [Food imitations | Business Companion](#)

ECHA Guidance: [Guidance on CLP - ECHA](#)

UK SDS fact sheet: [HSE Guidance - Labelling and packaging - Chemical classification](#)

You Tube – Various industry videos are available, here is one by way of example:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S2GMLmJKv7s>

You can visit the Association of British Insurers website to download liability insurance guidance for small businesses: [Liability insurance | Business insurance | Choosing the right insurance | ABI](#)

Quantity marking: [Packaged goods: weights and measures regulations - GOV.UK](#)

Weights and Measures Regulations:

[Weights and Measures \(Packaged Goods\) Regulations 2006 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

Weights and Measures: [Weights and measures | Business Companion](#)

Contact Points

Cornwall Council
Trading Standards
Unit 6
Threemilestone Industrial Estate
Truro, TR4 9LD
T: 0300 1234 212 (Option 4)
W: www.cornwall.gov.uk
E: businessadvice@cornwall.gov.uk

British Candlemakers Federation
Tallow Chandlers Hall
4 Dowgate Hill
London
EC4R 2SH
T: 020 7248 4726
W: www.britishcandles.org

Health and Safety Executive (HSE) Helpdesk
2.3 Redgrave Court
Bootle
Merseyside
L20 7HS
T: 0845 408 9575
E: ukreach.clp@hse.gov.uk

This guide mainly focuses on trading laws and consumer protection legislation within the remit of Trading Standards, therefore there are additional aspects you may need to consider which are not covered here (e.g. insurance, business rates and income tax) so compliance with the legislation mentioned herein will not exhaust all of your legal responsibilities.

DISCLAIMER: Legislation may change over time and the advice given in good faith is based on the information available at the time the advice was produced. It is not necessarily comprehensive and is subject to revision in the light of further information. Only the courts can give a definitive interpretation of legislation. This advice is not intended to be a definitive guide to, nor substitute for, the relevant law. Independent legal advice should be sought where appropriate. No liability is accepted for reliance on this information. All previous versions of this publication must now be considered inaccurate.

ANNEX I - Sample Candle Burn Test Report**Sample Candle Burn Test Report**

In accordance with BS EN 15493:2019

Date of test:	Sample Number:	1 / 2 / 3 of 3	
Item/style number:	Batch Code:		
Candle size & weight:	Container Type:		
Fragrance:	Colour:		
Embedded materials:	Decoration:		
Holder:	Sample temperature:	Max:	Min:
	Room temperature:	Max:	Min:
Burn Start Time:	Burn End Time:		
Pause 1:	Pause 2:		
Burn test cycle:	Tester:		

Conduct of test: The provided candleholder will be used if available. If the sample is a self-extinguishing freestanding candle - the sample will be placed on white copy paper. Surface to be non-flammable and heat resistant. Suitable separation distances to be observed. External factors to be minimised. Draughts to be excluded. Wick will be trimmed to pre-determined target level and set upright. Wick will be trimmed again before relighting after pauses. Target sample start temperature and room temperature shall be 20 +/- 5 °C. BS EN 15426:2018 sooting behaviour is not included in this report, nor is labelling compliance. This test sheet is not to be used for floating candles.

Test Item	Data	Pass/Fail	Notes
Stability test at 10° incline			
Candle position 1			
Candle position 2 (rotated X°)			
Flame stability observation			
Five minutes after ignition			
Time Period 1			
Time Period 2			
Prior to Extinguishing			
Reference Candle used	YES / NO		
Flame Height (mm)			
Initial ignition			
Time Period 1			
Time Period 2			
Time Period 3			
Time Period 4			
Time Period 5			
Time Period 6			

Test Item	Data	Pass/Fail	Notes
Flame Height (mm)			
Prior to Extinguishing			
Secondary ignition (seconds)			
Visible sooting			
Carbon cap ('mushrooming')			
Shooting Observation			
Clean/blackened			
Excessive quantity			
Performance			
Hourly Fuel Consumption (g/h)			
Candle surface temperature			Note time and temperature (°C)
Candle surface temperature			Note time and temperature (°C)
Molten Wax Pool			
Carbon deposits			
Tunnelling			
Excessive pooling			
Extinguishing			
Aftersmoke time (seconds)			
Glow/ember stop time			
Re-ignition			
Container integrity (i.e. cracks)			
Height of candle at end			
Self-extinguishing			
Paper burn or scorching			
Defects Noted			
Before test			
During test			
After test			
Test Result & Conclusion			
Noted deviations from BS EN 15493:2019 methods			

ANNEX II - SDS Labelling Guide

Information Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

Page 1 (9)
Issue date: 24/05/2021
Version: 10 (24/05/2021)

SAFETY DATA SHEET

In accordance with REACH Regulation EC No.1907/2006

Product: Christmas 300g Candle
Version: 10

Section 1. Identification of the substance or the mixture and of the supplier

1.1 Product Identifier
Product identifier: Christmas 300g Candle (Contains: 1-(1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8-Octahydro-2,3,8,8-tetramethyl-2-naphthalenyl)ethanone)
Other identifiers:
Unique Formula Identifier (UFI): ABCD-1234-AB12-CD34
1.2 Relevant identified uses of the substance or mixture and uses advised against
Product uses: Candle
1.3 Details of the supplier of the safety data sheet
Company name: Candle Maker
Company address: Candle Maker Road
Candletown
XX12 1AB
Contact: Candlemaker@Candlemaker.com
E-Mail address: 01234 123456
Company phone:
1.4 Emergency telephone number
Emergency phone:

Section 2. Hazards identification

2.1 Classification of the substance or mixture
Classification under Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008
Class and category of danger: Sensitization - Skin Category 1
Hazardous to the Aquatic Environment - Long-term Hazard Category 2
H317, May cause an allergic skin reaction.
H411, Toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects.
2.2 Label elements
Classification under Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008
Signal word: Warning

Product Identifier

UFI Code ¹

The name, address, and telephone number of the supplier (UK and EU if the label is to be placed in the EU market)²

Signal Word(s)

¹Note that for labels placed in the EU market the UFI code is also mandatory.

In Great Britain, UFI code is not required but good practice and NHS will include it in the emergency response notification if present.

²Note that the contact address means the street, the postal code and the town (for internationally marketed products also the country). Indication of the company website is not sufficient.

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Issue date: 24/09/2021

Version: 10 (24/09/2021)

SAFETY DATA SHEET

In accordance with REACH Regulation EC No.1907/2006

Product: [Redacted]

Version: 10

Hazard statements:

H317, May cause an allergic skin reaction.

H411, Toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects.

Supplemental Information:

EUH208, Contains 2,4-Dimethyl-3-cyclohexen-1-carboxaldehyde, Linalool, alpha-Pinene, d-Limonene, di-Citronellol. May produce an allergic reaction.

Precautionary statements:

P261, Avoid breathing vapour or dust.

P272, Contaminated work clothing should not be allowed out of the workplace.

P273, Avoid release to the environment.

P280, Wear protective gloves/eye protection/face protection.

P302/352, IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water.



P333/313, If skin irritation or rash occurs: Get medical advice/attention.

P363, Wash contaminated clothing before reuse.

P391, Collect spillage.

P501, Dispose of contents/container to approved disposal site, in accordance with local regulations.

Pictograms:

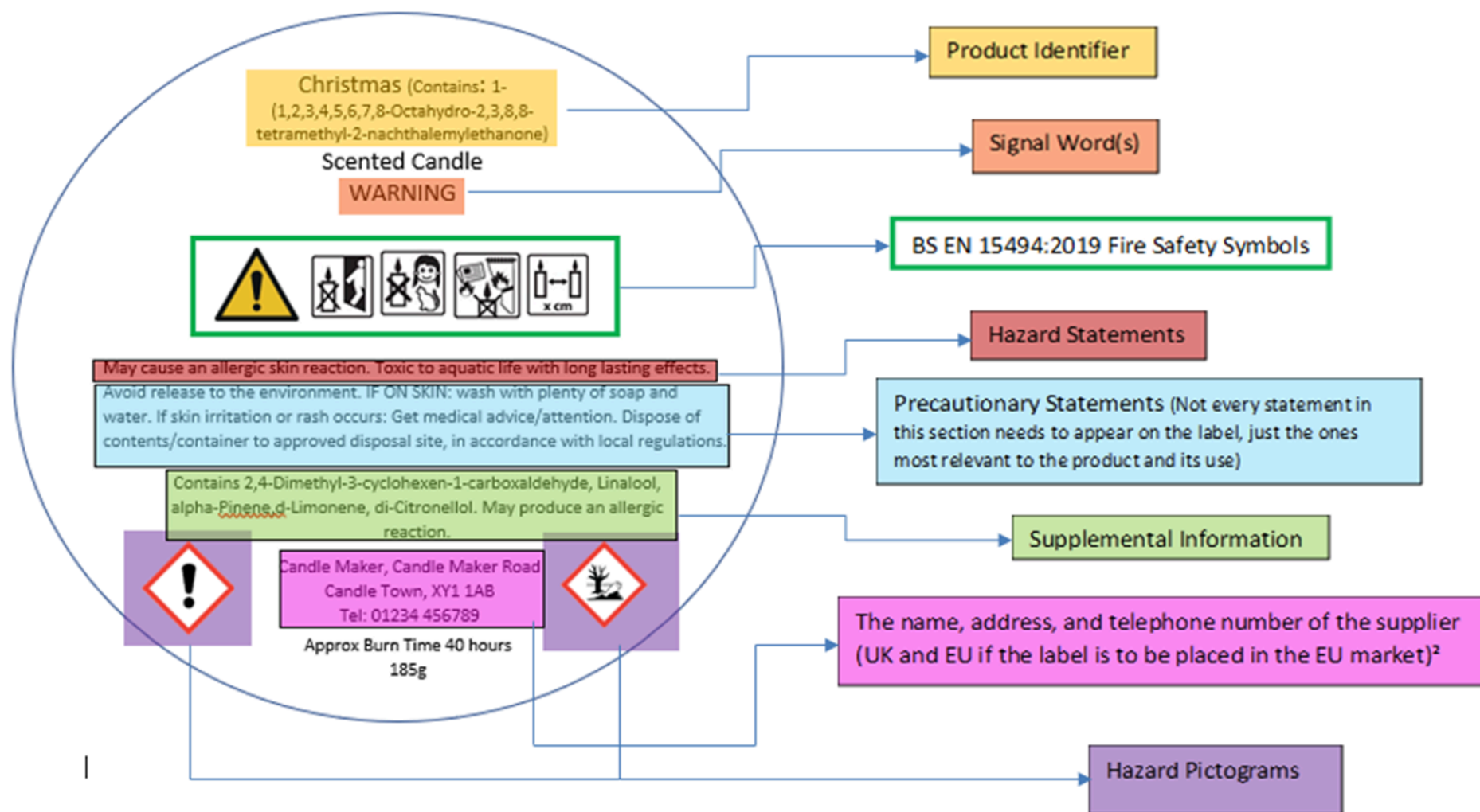



Hazard Statements

Supplemental Information

Precautionary Statements (Not every statement in this section needs to appear on the label, just the ones most relevant to the product and its use)

Hazard Pictograms



ANNEX III - Fire Safety Symbols (BS EN 15494: 2019)






Table 1 - Mandatory supplementary safety information	
	**No text applicable**
	Never leave a burning candle unattended
	Keep away from things that can catch fire
	Keep away from children and pets

Table 2 – Additional mandatory supplementary safety information – specific for certain candle types	
	Use a heat resistant candleholder













<u>Table 3 – Additional mandatory supplementary safety information – specific for floating candles</u>	
	Use in a suitable bowl filled with water

Table 4 - Optional supplementary safety information

	Keep candles at least x^1 cm apart		Keep wax pool clear of matches and debris
	Do not burn in a draught		Do not move a burning candle
	Do not place near a heat source		Never use liquid to extinguish
	Place candle upright		Remove packaging before use
	Trim wick to x^2 cm		Trim edge if higher than x^3 cm
	Snuff the flame out, do not blow it out.		
<p>x^1 represents the minimum safety distance between candles and is defined by the manufacturer</p> <p>x^2 represents the maximum length of the wick and is defined by the manufacturer</p> <p>x^3 represents the maximum height of the edge and is defined by the manufacturer</p>			

Additional optional supplementary safety information for specific candle types

Table 5a - Additional optional supplementary safety information – Specific for tea lights



Only use in holders and warming stoves with sufficient ventilation.

Table 5b - Additional optional supplementary safety information – Specific for votive candles



This candle liquefies, use a suitable container.

Table 5c - Additional optional supplementary safety information – Specific for container candles



Do not touch: may be hot.

Table 5d - Additional optional supplementary safety information – Specific for candles not appropriate to use in a warming unit, e.g. scented tea lights



Do not burn in a warming unit

ANNEX IV - Labelling Aide-Mémoire
CLP Labelling Requirements

GHS Labeling Requirements			
Requirement	Comments		Small Package?
Name, Address & tel number	Of supplier(s)		Product Label
Nominal Content	Unless specified elsewhere on the package		Fold-out label/tag/outer packaging
	In grams (g)		
Product Identifier	Refer to SDS		Product Label
	Must include a trade name, and		
	Identify all substances that contribute to the classification of the mixture re acute toxicity, skin corrosion or serious eye damage, germ cell mutagenicity, carcinogenicity, reproductive toxicity, respiratory or skin sensitisation, specific target organ toxicity or aspiration hazard.		
Hazard Pictogram(s)	Located together on the label.	Refer to SDS	Product Label
If applicable		Black symbol on a white background with red frame	
		Shape of a square set at a point	
		Each pictogram shall cover at least one fifteenth of label but minimum not less than 1cm²	
Signal word(s)		'Danger' or 'Warning'	Fold-out label/tag/outer packaging
If applicable		Refer to SDS	
		If 'Danger' is used the word 'Warning' must not appear on label	
Hazard Statements		Refer to SDS	Fold-out label/tag/outer packaging
If applicable		All applicable hazard statements must appear on label unless obvious duplication or redundancy	
Precautionary Statements		Refer to SDS	Fold-out label/tag/outer packaging
		If a statement is clearly redundant or unnecessary it shall be omitted	
		When product supplied to the public 1 statement addressing disposal of product as well as disposal of packaging shall be included.	
		Not more than 6 statements shall appear on label unless necessary to reflect nature & severity of hazards	
Supplemental Information	Refer to SDS		Fold-out label/tag/outer packaging
	Statements such as 'non-toxic', 'non-harmful', 'non-polluting', 'ecological' or similar that indicate that the product is not hazardous or any other statements inconsistent with the classification shall not appear on the label.		

BS EN 15494:2019 Candles – Product Safety Labels

Ref	Requirement	Comment
4.2	Layout of the safety label	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. General warning sign (ISO 7010 – W001) (yellow triangle with black exclamation) 2. Mandatory supplementary information in symbols or texts 3. Optional supplementary information in symbols or texts.
The optional symbols or texts shall be used based on the risk assessment for the specific candle.		
The supplementary information symbols or texts shall be placed in close proximity the general warning sign.		
If symbols are used, they must be reproduced as shown in the standard. Min height 5mm.		
<p>The mandatory information must be visible and legible on the packaging or product. If space is limited the optional information may be placed elsewhere.</p> <p>There shall be a clear indication of where to find this additional information.</p>		