



LIQUID SOAP MAKING GUIDE FOR PEOPLE WITH DEAFBLINDNESS

Overview

Liquid soap making is a practical, low-cost activity that can help people with deafblindness earn an income or contribute to household needs. It is simple to learn and uses locally available materials. This activity also helps build fine motor skills, responsibility, and independence. With guidance and safety measures, learners can create soap that can be sold or used at home.

This guide supports caregivers, parents, and interveners to include people with deafblindness in soap-making through clear steps, tactile learning, and adapted communication.

Materials Needed

These items can be found in local chemical shops or hardware stores in Kenya.

1. Chemicals (with alternative names):

Chemical Name	Common/ Local Name	Purpose
Industrial salt	<i>Chumvi ya viwandani</i>	Helps thicken and bind the soap
Ufacid (Sulphonic Acid)	<i>Acid Sulphonic</i>	Strong cleaning agent and foam booster
Ungarol (Surfactant)	<i>Texapon</i>	Lathers the soap and lifts dirt/oils
CDE (Coconut Diethanolamide)	<i>Foam booster / Conditioner</i>	Thickens soap and adds smoothness
Caustic Acid	<i>Hydrochloric acid</i> (optional in some formulas)	Used in small amounts to adjust pH



Perfume	<i>Fragrance oil (Lavender, Lemon, etc.)</i>	Adds pleasant scent
Colorant	<i>Soap dye or food color</i>	Makes the soap visually appealing

2. Tools and Equipment:

- A large plastic basin or bucket (for mixing)
- A wooden or plastic stirring stick
- Gloves, dust coat, mask, and rubber shoes (for safety)
- Clean water
- Empty bottles or jerricans for storage
- Sieve or cloth filter (optional, for smoother soap)

Allow the learner to touch and identify tools before starting. Use object cues (e.g., sample bottle, small stick) to support understanding.

Teaching Approach for Learners with Deafblindness

Use a combination of tactile, visual, and auditory support based on the learner's needs:

- Hand-under-hand or hand-over-hand guidance when using tools
- Tactile communication (e.g., tapping patterns, signs on body)
- Verbal cues or object cues
- Allow touch exploration of materials before use
- Give time for repetition and practice
- Explain why each step matters (e.g., “We stir to mix everything evenly”)



Step-by-Step Instructions

1. Preparation and Safety

- Choose a quiet, clean workspace with a flat surface.
- Ensure the learner and guide are wearing protective gear (gloves, coat, shoes, mask).
- Let the learner explore tools and materials by touch and simple explanations.
- Use tactile signals to indicate “start,” “stop,” and “next.”

2. Mixing Procedure

The learner should take part in each step with guided support. Use separate bowls if needed for practice.

Step 1: Mix Industrial Salt and Ufacid

- Add ½ kg of industrial salt to the basin.
- Pour in ¼ liter of ufacid (sulphonic acid).
- Stir slowly in a circular motion until it begins to blend.

Step 2: Add Ungarol (Texapon)

- Add ½ **liter of ungarol** to the mixture.
- Stir gently. Use hand-under-hand support if needed.

Step 3: Add CDE (Foam booster)

- Add an equal amount of CDE into the basin.
- Stir again until all contents are smooth.

Step 4: Add Color and Fragrance

- Add a few drops of colorant (optional).
- Add 10–30 ml of perfume (based on preference).
- Stir carefully, let the learner smell the perfume if safe.



Step 5: Add Clean Water

- Slowly pour water into the mixture while stirring.
- Keep stirring until all salt crystals dissolve (10–15 minutes).
- The soap will begin to thicken.

Step 6: Rest and Bottle

- Let the soap rest for 4–6 hours (or overnight) to settle.
- Stir lightly again. If needed, strain through a cloth.
- Pour the finished soap into clean jerricans or bottles using a funnel.

3. Cleaning and Closing

- Involve the learner in cleaning all the tools used.
- Demonstrate how to dispose of chemical containers safely.
- Support the learner to remove protective gear.
- Finish by guiding them to wash their hands thoroughly.

Safety Tips

- Never touch chemicals with bare hands.
- Label bottles clearly and store safely, out of children's reach.
- Do not eat, drink, or inhale chemicals.
- Always supervise closely.
- In case of contact with eyes or skin, rinse immediately and seek medical help.

Why This Activity Matters

- Builds independence, routine, and self-confidence.
- Offers potential for small business or household use.



- Encourages teamwork, sensory learning, and practical application.
- It can be adapted for schools, community groups, or homes.

Next Steps and Ideas

- Support learners to create labels for their bottles.
- Explore selling at local markets or school fairs.
- Reinforce routine by creating simple tactile schedules (e.g., bottles = mixing, funnel = bottling).
- Repeat the process for stronger memory and skill building.

Final Notes for Caregivers and Trainers

- ✓ Use simple, repetitive language and touch
- ✓ Allow extra time and praise at each step
- ✓ Prioritize learner's safety and comfort
- ✓ Involve them in decision-making, e.g. choosing color or scent
- ✓ Celebrate the final product

Note

For a visual demonstration, visit the [Sense International Kenya YouTube channel](#) and watch the [Liquid Soap Making video](#) under the Livelihood and Vocational Training section.