Candle lights at Christmas give people warm memories. Making something for the Christmas season is part of preparing for the big day. Candleholders are ideal to make for your own home or as presents for loved ones.

We all tend to run out of time, get too busy with big projects, so this easy to make, simple candleholder is just what is needed. You can make several for gifts in a short time. Using tea lights has the advantage they already come in their own metal holder, making them much safer.

This plan gives you three different designs. Like for all plans from Aschi’s Workshop, no special tools are needed. A simple jigsaw does a fine job, a spade drill and sandpaper, that’s all.

The base is the same for all three candleholders. Begin by preparing the wood for the main-base. Any good looking piece of lumber (wood) with a 19 mm (3/4") thickness will work fine.

There are many ways to transfer the plan to the wood. If you plan on making several candle holders, make a template out of cardboard or thin craft wood first. Otherwise stick wide masking tape onto your wood, than glue the pattern on top using any kind of glue. Glue sticks work well. The advantage of using this method is that everything can simply be pulled off after cutting, without having to use turpentine to remove residue. An added bonus is that the masking tape lubricates the blade and prevents burning when using hard woods.

The upper base is to be cut from 12 mm (1/2") timber, a different wood looks good. The third part is a wheel, which is drilled out to hold the tea light. The base drawing shows the placing of the parts for the first two candleholders.
The base for the third candleholder has the same parts, but they are arranged differently. (see photo) After the tree parts are glued in the desired position, drill out the actually candleholder. While a “Forstner Bit” gives a better finish, a “Spade Drill” does a fine job, is low cost and readily available. Tea lights have usually a diameter of 38 mm (1 1/2”). Cheap tea lights vary in size.

**Main Base** cut from 19 mm (3/4”) Lumber / Timber

**Upper Base** cut from 12 mm (1/2”) Lumber / Timber

Cut wheel, glue on the main base and drill out.
Making the first Tea Light Holder.
After having made the base, there are only two more parts. Glue the tree patterns onto 6 mm (¼”) plywood or craft wood, cut the shape and than the slot. Make sure one slot starts from the bottom up to the middle, the other from the top down to the middle. (If you use thinner stock you will have to adjust the with of the slot) The dotted line in indicates how deep the slots has to be cut. The “top” will get lost on the second tree when cutting the slot. The two parts should slide together, as shown on the photo.

Paint or stain, add glitter to the edges, personalize your trees any way you like. These candle holders will make wonderful gifts or make warm additions to your own holidays.

Making the second Tea Light Holder.
Again the same base. Cut one big tree from 9 mm (¾”) plywood or craft wood, no slot to cut, a small tree from page 4 and a spacer.

Making the third Tea Light Holder.
Cut two trees, a big one from page 3 and a middle size one from page 4. Base parts are the same, just arranged differently. (see photo). Gluing the taller tree on top of the upper base and the middle sized tree on the main base gives a more landscape like impression.

To protect furniture for, is it advisable to glue adhesive skid protectors under every base. These are little felt pieces, available in any hardware store or supermarket.

Shopping List
- ¾” (19 mm) Lumber / Wood for Main Base
- ½” (12 mm) Lumber / Wood for upper Base
- ½” (12 mm) Lumber / Wood for Candle Holder
- ¼” (6 mm) Plywood or Craft wood for version one.
- ¾” (9 mm) Plywood or Craft wood for version two and three.
- Adhesive skid protectors.

Tools used:
- Jigsaw, power drill with 1½” (38 mm) spade drill, sandpaper.

Aschi’s WORKSHOP is a product of Peter Aschenbrenner, Qld, Australia, A.B.N. 90 472 785 835
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Small Tree for Tea Light Holder #2. Cut from 9 mm (⅜") Plywood or Craft Wood.

Middle sized Tree for Tea Light Holder #3. Cut from 9 mm (⅜") Plywood.

For Scrollers:
Try cutting the base and actual candle holder as relief cut. Tilt your table 2-3 degrees, I can’t give you the exact number as it depends on the thickness of the wood and on your blade. (do a few trial cuts in scraps of the same wood) It also depends on how high you want your “hill” and “holder” to stick up. If your saw only tilts one way you have to saw counter clockwise to bring the wood up and clockwise to bring it back down for the inside of the actual holder. Just to make sure try it on scrap!
If you’re lucky enough to have a saw that tilts both ways just tilt it the other way for the inside of the actual holder. Once cut just use a few drops of glue on the edges and stick the pieces back in. This method saves wood as it’s all cut from one piece. No gluing on extra pieces, no chance of pieces coming off in little hands. It’s also a good way to give relief cutting a try.