

### How did you get your start in soap making?

We had a client that called me one day and asked that I come over to her house so she could show me something. When I got there she had started working with M&P soap and she wanted me to spend the day with her making soap. I did spend the whole day with her and we had a blast. After that we would get together and make soap on the weekends. About a year later she called and told me about a soap convention that was going to be in Dallas and asked if I would like to go with her. I did go and the bug bit me, when I went home after that convention I just had to try making soap. Started out with crock-pot soap, and then ventured on to CP with the help of some people that I had met at the convention.

### How did you get your start is selling soap making supplies?

Marcie Murphy, was moving out of the area and was selling her business, Keller Naturals, she approached me about buying her out. My husband and I talked about it and decided that we would purchase Keller Naturals and change the name to Supplies by Star. Before we took over the business we built the warehouse on the back of our property. We added oils and several other products to the inventory, and that is where we are today.

### What are your best selling soap making products?

Probably the items that move the quickest are the soap molds, then the oils and colorants. In the last year Melt & Pour bases have increased in popularity.



### What is your favorite thing about running your own business?

My favorite part of running my own business is the people that I get to meet and help. I love to share what I know with others and if I can help them to make their products and following the proper procedures then that makes me happy. Following the proper safety rules and labeling laws are very important and most of the people just starting out do not know where to find this information.

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an interview with

Starlene Moore of  
Supplies by Star

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Bonus!

### What's your favorite kind of soap to make?

My favorite kind of soap is my calendula cream soap. I usually do CPOP when I make soap, so that I can unmold it quicker, but I still cure my soap for 3 to 4 weeks. Sometimes longer with the calendula cream as it is a softer soap to start out.

### Tell us about the 2011 Texas Soapmaker's Seminar!

This is a great learning experience, as we have some wonderful presentations scheduled. No matter how long you have been making soaps and other products, you always can learn something new. One of the benefits of a conference like this is the networking with other soap makers, what you can learn from each other is priceless. The goodie bags are always good, because you always find suppliers that you have never heard of before, that may have something that you need. We will have a wine and cheese reception on Friday night so that you can meet other attendees. There will be a continental breakfast on Saturday morning. Please do go to [www.lonestarsoapandtoiletries.com](http://www.lonestarsoapandtoiletries.com) and check it out.



### What words of wisdom do you have for new soap makers?

The first thing is research, research and more research. Then take all safety precautions and have fun. Be ready to be hooked after the first batch, because it is lots of fun and very addictive.

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