Riddlepedia Name _____ Date _____

Candle Riddles



30 riddles from easy to tricky. Write your answer on the line. Answers are on the last page.

Easy riddles ★

1. I'm tall when I'm young, and I'm short when I'm old. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

2. I'm the little string that runs through the middle of a candle. The flame sits on my tip, and I turn black as the candle burns. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

3. You strike me once against my box, I flare up with a hiss, and I pass my flame to the candle. A few seconds later, I'm finished. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

4. Blow out a candle and I curl up from the wick like a thin gray ribbon. I float away and leave a smell behind. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

5. Light a candle in a dark room and I appear on the wall. I copy everything you do, I dance when the flame flickers, and I vanish when the candle goes out. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

6. I'm hot and bright, I wave without hands, and I eat wax and string. A drop of water or one big puff of air and I'm gone. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

7. Once a year you can see me on a cake, one for every year you've been alive. You make a wish, take a deep breath and blow us all out. What are we?

   ANSWER _____

8. I'm orange and round, someone carved a face into me, and a candle inside makes my eyes glow on Halloween night. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

9. I'm a short, round candle that sits in a little metal cup. People float me in bowls of water or line me up along a table. What am I?

   ANSWER _____

10. I'm a tiny metal bell on a long handle. Lower me over a flame and the candle goes out without any smoke blowing in your face. What am I?

    ANSWER _____

11. Candles are made of me, I drip when I get warm, and I harden again when I cool. Take away my first letter and you can chop wood with what's left. What am I?

ANSWER _____

Holiday and Candlestick Riddles About Candles

12. I'm part of every candlelit dinner, yet I give off no light at all. I just stand tall and hold the candle up. What am I?

ANSWER _____

13. I have nine branches, and for eight nights in winter, one more of my candles is lit each night. What am I?

ANSWER _____

14. On a Hanukkah menorah, I'm the one candle with a job: I'm lit first and used to light all the others. I often sit higher than the rest. What am I called?

ANSWER _____

15. I'm a ring of evergreen branches with four candles. One more candle is lit each Sunday in the weeks before Christmas. What am I?

ANSWER _____

16. I hold seven candles, red, black and green, and one more is lit each day from December 26 to January 1. What am I?

ANSWER _____

17. I hang from the ceiling of a grand ballroom with many arms full of candles or bulbs, and crystals dangle from me. My name comes from the French word for "candle." What am I?

ANSWER _____

18. Before clocks were common, people marked lines down the side of me. Each line that melted away meant another hour had passed. What am I?

ANSWER _____

19. Blow us out on your birthday cake, and a second later we flicker back to life. You have to blow again and again. What are we?

ANSWER _____

20. I'm a holiday on February 2, exactly 40 days after Christmas, and I'm named after the candles that churches bless that day. What am I?

ANSWER _____

21. What did one candle say to the other candle on Saturday night?

ANSWER _____

Tricky riddles ★★★

22 Ten candles are burning on a table. A draft blows out 3 of them, and nobody relights them. The other candles burn all the way down. How many candles are left on the table in the morning?

ANSWER _____

23 You have two special candles, each with a wick at both ends. Each takes exactly 1 hour to burn from end to end, but they burn unevenly, so half a candle isn't half an hour. How can you time exactly 45 minutes?

ANSWER _____

24 A candle maker can melt 5 candle stubs into 1 new candle. She has 30 stubs. How many new candles can she make in all if she keeps melting the stubs of the candles she burns?

ANSWER _____

25 A 12-inch candle burns 2 inches every hour. An 8-inch candle burns 1 inch every hour. If you light them at the same time, when will they be the same height?

ANSWER _____

26 Two candles are exactly the same length. One burns down in 4 hours, the other in 5 hours. You light them at the same time. When will one candle be four times as long as the other?

ANSWER _____

27 A candle is 20 centimeters tall and burns 2 centimeters every hour. You light it at 6 p.m. and let it burn. At what time does it go out?

ANSWER _____

28 Hanukkah lasts eight nights. On the first night you light 1 candle plus the shamash, on the second night 2 candles plus the shamash, and so on, with brand-new candles every night. How many candles do you need for the whole holiday?

ANSWER _____

29 You get one candle for each year of your age on every birthday cake. By the time you've blown out the candles on your 10th birthday cake, how many candles have you blown out in all?

ANSWER _____

30 On the first Sunday of Advent you light one candle on the wreath, on the second Sunday two, on the third Sunday three, and on the fourth Sunday all four. How many candle lightings is that over the four Sundays?

ANSWER _____

Answers

Candle Riddles · answer key · print or fold this page away before you hand out the sheet

1. **A candle**
2. **The wick**
3. **A match**
4. **Smoke**
5. **Your shadow**
6. **The flame**
7. **Birthday candles**
8. **A jack-o'-lantern**
9. **A tealight**
10. **A candle snuffer**
11. **Wax.** Without the W, it's "ax."
12. **A candlestick**
13. **A Hanukkah menorah.** It's also called a hanukkiah.
14. **The shamash**
15. **An Advent wreath**
16. **A kinara**
17. **A chandelier**
18. **A candle clock**
19. **Trick candles.** They are also called relighting candles.
20. **Candlemas**
21. **"Want to go out tonight?"**
22. **3.** Only the blown-out candles are still there; the other 7 burned away completely.
23. **Light candle A at both ends and candle B at one end.** When A burns out (30 minutes), light B's other end; it burns out 15 minutes later.
24. **7. 30 stubs make 6 candles; their 6 stubs make 1 more, with 2 stubs left over.**
25. **After 4 hours.** Both candles are 4 inches tall then.
26. **After 3 hours and 45 minutes.** The slow candle has 1/4 of its length left and the fast one has 1/16.
27. **4 a.m.** It lasts 10 hours.
28. **44.** That's why a standard box of Hanukkah candles holds 44.
29. **55**
30. **10. 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 = 10.**

Need a hint? Every riddle has one at riddlepedia.com/candle-riddles/, where you can also play them as a game.