

Catch your mum unaware this Mother's Day with a home made gift.

**Momtaz Begum-Hussain** gives you an idea for that little something that will bring a smile to her face.



Photography: Rizwan Farooqui

# A welcome surprise!

## Mother's Day

### You will need

Photographs

Plain soaps (flat)

Waterslide decal paper for inkjet printers by Lazertran

Inkjet or laser printer

Varnish – water or oil based

### Choose your photos.

If you normally take photos with a digital camera, you just need to resize them to fit the soap. Alternatively, scan your photographs in and resize them on screen – if you don't know how to do this, ask a friend or family member to help you.

Measure your soaps and work out what size

your photos need to be resized to.

These soaps measure 7.5cm by 5 cm – and the photos measure 7cm by 4.5cm (0.5cm less than the soap measurements.)

Print your photos onto a sheet of waterslide decal paper.

If you are unsure, follow the instructions on the packet. You need to print onto the smooth, white side of the paper. Leave the printouts to dry for at least 30 minutes.

Cut your photos out.

Soak them in water for about 60 seconds until the photo comes away from the backing paper, then place them directly onto the soap. To secure your image, when dry, finish by painting over the photo with a varnish. Using a water-based varnish gives your photos a white background, using an oil-

based varnished leaves a clear background.

### Ready-to-shoot.

Wrap up your soaps in a pretty cloth, tie with a ribbon and get your cameras ready to capture mum's delight as she opens them!

Designed by Momtaz Begum-Hossain ([www.momtazbh.co.uk](http://www.momtazbh.co.uk))

Lazertran can be bought from art shops or [www.lazertran.com](http://www.lazertran.com)

If you don't have access to a colour printer, you can buy Lazertran waterslide paper for colour photocopiers rather than inkjet printers, and have them printed at your local photocopying shop.

*Momtaz is an author and crafts writer who contributes to adults and children crafts magazines and runs a custom-made clothes website [momtazbh.co.uk](http://momtazbh.co.uk)*