



CHESAPEAKE BAY CANDLE

Top Left: Reed diffusers are a modern fragrance alternative to candles.

Top Right: Mei Xu and husband David Wang (not pictured), founded Chesapeake Bay Candle in 1994.

Bottom Left: Jasmine Mint is an elegant fragrance with accents of mint leaves and lemon zest.

Bottom Right: Live Fully, from the Journeys collection, has a fresh, earthy aroma.

More than just a scent, fragrance provides instant ambiance to any home. It is an easy, inexpensive way to express your personality and set the mood. Mei Xu, co-founder and president of Chesapeake Bay Candle, based in Rockville, Maryland, understands the importance of fragrance.

In 1994, Xu and her husband, David Wang, founded the luxurious home fragrance company, which includes candles, gift sets, and home accessories. Prices range from \$10 to \$36 per candle. "Fragrance is about pleasure," Xu says. "It's a personal branding opportunity for your home, and it adds a different dimension."

Inspired by the serene, natural beauty of Maryland's shoreline, the Chesapeake Bay Candle collection features essential fragrance oils from nature, soy wax for sustainability, 100-percent cotton, lead-free wicks, and reusable packaging. With the recent opening of a factory in Glen Burnie, the company is moving slightly closer to its namesake. "It's like a homecoming to us," says Xu.

L'Oreal Thompson is the Assistant Editor of Chesapeake Home + Living.

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