



THE WITCH'S VESSEL

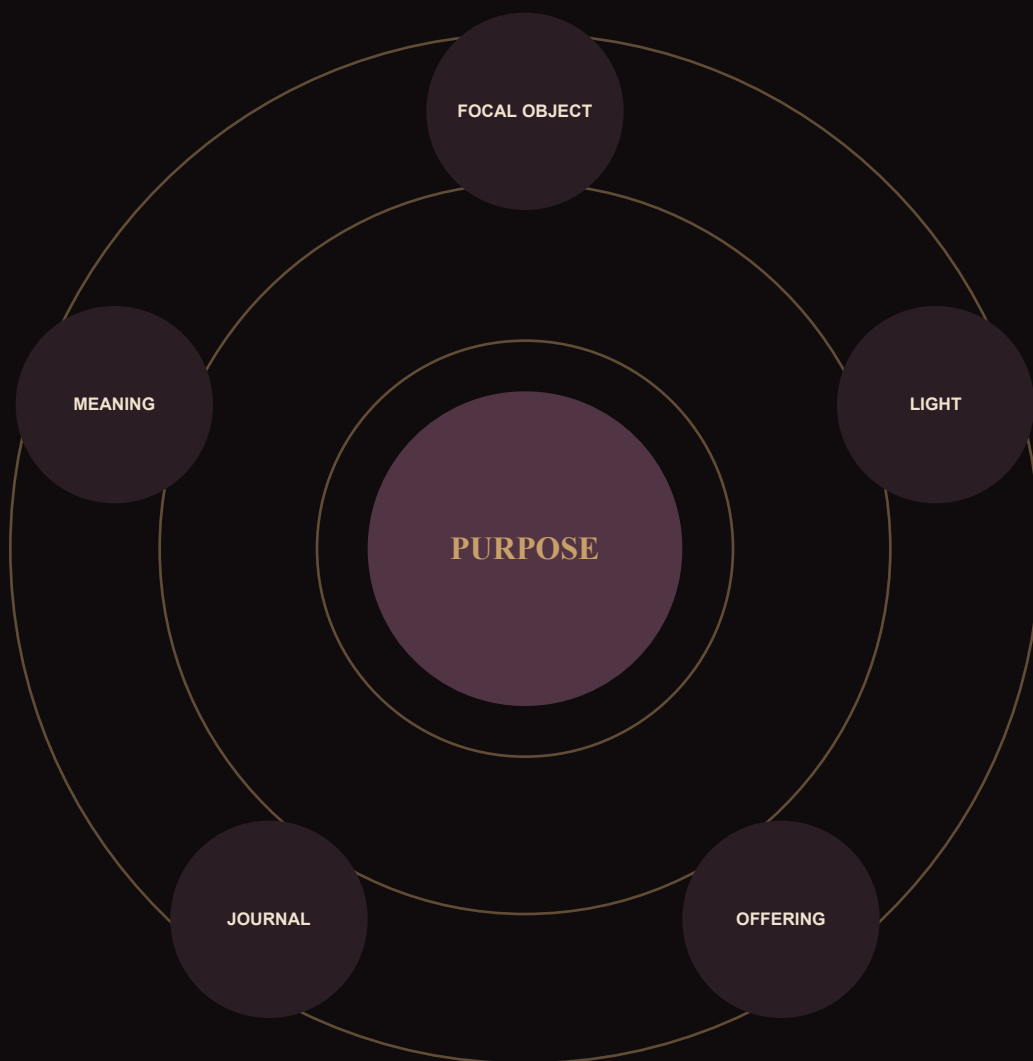
THE ALTAR CHECKLIST

A field guide to purpose, safety, boundaries, offerings, and deliberate closure.

Purpose Before Objects

Begin with what the space is for, then choose only what serves that purpose.

An altar may be devotional, temporary, memorial, meditative, symbolic, or simply a place of focused attention. There is no universal required layout.



Choose only what is meaningful, safe, lawful, culturally respectful, and practical for your home.



PLATE 02

BEFORE THE FLAME

Safety is part of the practice, not an interruption to it.

The Safety Check

Complete this page before anything is lit, heated, burned, eaten, or left overnight.

PLACE

- ☐ Stable, level, heat-resistant surface
- ☐ Clear of curtains, loose paper, pets, children, and exits
- ☐ Nothing blocking alarms, outlets, or walkways

FIRE + SMOKE

- ☐ Never leave flame, charcoal, incense, or hot wax unattended
- ☐ Use a holder sized for the item
- ☐ Choose flameless options when needed
- ☐ Confirm ventilation and smoke sensitivity

FOOD + MATERIALS

- ☐ Remove offerings before spoilage
- ☐ Exclude pet-toxic plants, oils, smoke, and foods
- ☐ Inspect for mold, pests, sharp edges, and broken glass

Follow manufacturer directions and local fire rules. Stop immediately if smoke or scent causes symptoms.

Give the Practice Edges

Defined beginnings and endings keep a sacred space connected to ordinary life.

OPEN

- ☐ Set a time limit
- ☐ State an intention
- ☐ Name a boundary
- ☐ Confirm flame and smoke safety
- ☐ Notice your physical and emotional state

CLOSE

- ☐ Extinguish all heat
- ☐ Remove perishables
- ☐ Store or clean tools
- ☐ Separate observation from interpretation
- ☐ Return the room to ordinary use

MONTHLY RESET

- ☐ Dust and inspect every object
- ☐ Remove clutter and expired offerings
- ☐ Check cloth, cords, holders, and containers
- ☐ Revisit the purpose and boundaries
- ☐ Keep, change, pause, or dismantle intentionally



PLATE 03

THE ROOM RETURNS

Closure is an intentional act: extinguish, clean, record, and leave.

The Printable Field Sheet

One calm page to use before, during, and after the practice.

PURPOSE

- ☐ I can name what this space is for
- ☐ Every object serves that purpose

SAFETY

- ☐ The surface and surroundings are safe
- ☐ Heat, smoke, food, pets, and exits are considered

BOUNDARIES

- ☐ I know what is welcome and what is not
- ☐ I have a time limit and a clear stopping point

CLOSURE

- ☐ All heat is extinguished
- ☐ Perishables are removed and tools are stored
- ☐ I returned the room to ordinary use

Keep, change, pause, or dismantle intentionally. The space remains yours.