Continue mixing with the stick blender until the soap traces.

Light Trace will be indicated when a line of soap starts to maintain its shape on the top of the soap both. Light trace should occur within 15 minutes.

Heavy trace is indicated by the soap taking on a pudding like texture.

**Liquid Soap Note:** While mixing liquid soap broth the soap will remain quite thin and then go from light to the heavy trace quite quickly. The paste stage will shortly follow.

If you will not be hot processing your soap remove it from the heat just after you notice light trace and continue to section “Finishing your Bar Soap” or “Finishing your Liquid Soap”.

Continue mixing the soap broth through heavy trace until the soap starts to turn into a paste. The soap will now take on a texture similar to saltwater taffy.

**Note:** If you are using the Pre-Dilution method the soap will not experience the paste stage and will cook right into the gel stage.

9) **Transfer Soap Paste to the double boiler**

Note: If you are using the crock pot or pre-dilution method skip this step and continue cooking in the crock pot or over direct heat for the pre-dilution method.