



## 'How to make' a ...

Here is a guide for making a number of instruments that you can use to play along with our Bring the songs. The instruments are:

- 1. Drums**
- 2. Tubular Bells**
- 3. A microphone**
- 4. A Guitar**

You will find most of the instrument-making approaches offer two methods - one is easy and the other is more detailed in its approach.

It is recommended that adult supervision is always on hand during the making and playing of these instruments.

Remember, homemade instruments aren't as sturdy as their real counterparts and may need a little more love and care!

# How to make homemade drums

## A step-by-step guide



Make sure you keep children under close supervision as you create and play. Cover sharp pencil ends in cotton wool or tissue and wrap around with tape to make safe. Take care to ensure that your child does not handle scissors and make sure to use safety scissors. Be careful of small pieces such as sticking tack as these can present a choking hazard.

### Easy method

Homemade drums are the perfect way to teach your kids rhythm. And if you're on a tight budget look no further; this drumkit can be assembled using nothing but pots and pans from your kitchen cupboards!

#### Gather your materials

It's pretty easy to assemble your own drum kit from household items. You'll need the following:

- (1) a selection of pots and pans from your kitchen
- (2) wooden spoons
- (3) string.



#### Arrange your drumkit

Grab your selection of pots and arrange them in order of size on a table. Get creative! Use a circular baking tray to mimic a snare drum. If your child wants to form their very own marching band, tie some string around a pot and hang the drum around their neck.



#### Bang away!

Grab your wooden spoons and let loose on your new drumkit. Practise some snare rolls!





## Detailed method

If you want to get a little bit more creative with your drums, flowerpots can make a great alternative to kitchen pots and pans. Be careful though! Although ceramic pots make the best sound, for safety it is probably better to use plastic pots for this activity.

If you choose to play using ceramic pots, make sure the children are under close supervision at all times and be careful when hitting the ceramic. In the case of a breakage, make sure that children are kept well away from the area until all sharp objects are cleared away.

Cover sharp pencil ends in cotton wool or tissue and wrap around with tape to make safe.

### Gather your materials

For these drums we need the following:

- (1) safety scissors
- (2) PVA glue
- (3) an assortment of flower pots
- (4) parcel tape
- (5) chopsticks (or pens/pencils)
- (6) a finished roll of tape
- (7) paint or string (to decorate the drums with)
- (8) chopsticks (or pens/pencils)
- (9) blue sticking tack.



1

### Use tape to make a drum skin

Criss-cross strips of tape over the top of your flower pot to form the top of the drum. It's important to make sure the tape is taut and that there are no gaps. You can double up layers of tape to make the drum more durable. Wrap electrical tape around the lip of the drum to keep the skin secure.



2

### Get creative!

You can use additional items to create different types of drum. Place a used roll of tape in between two types of flower pots to create an African djembe-style drum.



3



## Decorate the drums

Use paint and string to decorate your new drums as you see fit! Cover the drums with newspaper or masking tape first to help the paint stick (acrylic paint should work well). Let loose and finish by wrapping the drums with string!



## Making the drumsticks

Chopsticks work great with little hands! If you don't have chopsticks handy you can use pens or pencils.

Mould some balls out of blue sticking tack and push the chopsticks into them to create your very own pair of drumsticks.



## Bang away!

Take your new drums for a spin. Just make sure to warn your neighbours first!



# How to make homemade tubular bells

## A step-by-step guide



While not a faithful reproduction of tubular bells, an array of sturdy pint glasses can make a fine substitute! Always make sure this activity is carried out under adult supervision; if you're worried about spills, assist your child in tapping on the glasses.

When playing, make sure children are under close supervision at all times and be careful when hitting glasses with spoons or other objects. In the case of any breakages, make sure that children are kept well away from the area until all glass is cleared away.

### Gather your materials

For your homemade tubular bells we're going to need the following:

- (1) 4 pint glasses (or however many you have spare). Make sure they're the same size and shape.
- (2) food colouring or paints (optional)
- (3) tapwater
- (4) pencils or chopsticks
- (5) a measuring jug.



### Fill your pint glasses with water

You're going to need to fill each pint glass with a different amount of water. Leave the first glass empty. The second should be filled with about 100ml; the third with 200ml, so on so forth (the more water in the glass, the lower the pitch of the sound produced). Use food colouring to help differentiate each glass.



### Chime away!

Carefully use chopsticks to tap on the side of each glass and listen out for their different pitches and tones! Try to compose your own melodies on your new instrument.



# How to make a homemade microphone

## A step-by-step guide



It's time to channel your inner soul singer! Create your very own microphone out of these simple household objects.

Make sure you closely supervise children as you play. Keep scissors out of reach of children and use safety scissors where possible. Be careful of small pieces such as sticking tack as these can present a choking hazard.

### Gather your materials

For your homemade microphone we're going to need the following:

- (1) safety scissors
- (2) PVA glue
- (3) a paper towel tube
- (4) a styrofoam ball
- (5) coloured card
- (6) tin foil.



### Make the handle

Decide on the length of your microphone's handle and cut a paper towel tube to the appropriate length.

Cover the tube with glue and place some coloured card around the outside.



### Cover ball with tin foil

Wrap tin foil tightly around a small ball (a styrofoam ball would work well but here we've used an onion!).

Tape the ball to the handle securely.



## Belt out a hit!

If you want to, feel free to decorate the microphone as you see fit.

When finished, take your new microphone and practise those karaoke skills!



# How to make a homemade guitar

## A step-by-step guide



Make sure you closely supervise children as you play. Take care to ensure that your child does not handle scissors and use safety scissors. Cover sharp pencil ends in cotton wool or tissue and wrap around with tape to make safe. Be careful of small pieces as these can present a choking hazard.

### Easy method

A homemade guitar can be assembled with nothing but a paper towel tube, an empty cereal box and some rubber bands. Make one with this easy-to-follow tutorial!

#### Gather your materials

For your home-made guitar you'll need the following:

- (1) a cereal box
- (2) a large cardboard tube
- (3) rubber bands
- (4) PVA glue
- (5) safety scissors
- (6) something circular to draw around (small plate or tape roll).



1

#### Make the guitar body

Trace a large circle in the center of the cereal box. Cut it out carefully with scissors and ask an adult to punch a hole through the center of the circle with a sharp pencil. Use this as a starting point and cut towards the pen line.



2

#### Attach the neck and strings

Glue the paper towel tube to the top of the cereal box. Stretch rubber bands around the body of the guitar. Strum away!



3





## Detailed method

If you want to get a little bit more creative with your homemade guitar, look no further! Adult supervision is necessary. This activity is recommended for the 7+ age range due to the number of small parts that are used.

Make sure you closely supervise children as you play and take care of ping-pong or snapping elastic bands. Take care to ensure that your child does not handle scissors and make sure to use safety scissors. Keep sharp objects such as board pins out of the reach of children. Be careful of small pieces as these can present a choking hazard.

### Gather your materials

For this guitar we need the following:

- (1) corrugated cardboard
- (2) an assortment of rubber bands
- (3) boardpins
- (4) wooden kebab skewers
- (5) paint (to decorate the guitar with)
- (6) PVA glue
- (7) safety scissors



1

### Make the guitar body

Begin by tracing the outline of a guitar on to cardboard using the accompanying guitar template. Carefully cut around the outline and use this first layer as a template to cut 4 more layers. In the top three layers cut a circle in the centre of the body. Stack and glue the layers together to finish the main body of the guitar. Cut a rectangle out of the cardboard and superglue it approximately 2cm from the bottom of the hole.



2

### Make the neck of the guitar

Trace the outline of a guitar neck on to the remaining cardboard. Cut around it carefully. Paint it and then cut wooden kebab skewers to size and arrange on the neck to create a fretboard, using PVA glue to stick them in place. If your cardboard is quite thin you can double up another layer below for extra support.



3

### Join the guitar together and decorate

Glue the neck of your guitar to its body and leave to dry.

Now the fun part: decorate the guitar with paint. Get creative!



### Attach the strings

Stick pins in the cardboard rectangle that we made earlier (see picture) using glue. Stick another set of pins at the base of the fretboard. Now take the rubber bands and wrap them around each set of pins. It's important to choose the right size rubber band so there's enough tension to create proper sound.



### Rock out!

Take your finished guitar and shred away!

