



Let's Make a Comb Kazoo!



A kazoo is an unusual instrument that makes sound when you hum into it. If you can hum a tune, you can play a kazoo! Let's learn how to make one.

1. First, you'll need a square of tissue paper, less than 20cm wide, to place around the comb.

You Will Need:

- Comb
- Tissue paper
- Safety scissors

Tip: craft tissue paper or greaseproof paper work best. Fold the square of paper in half.

Next, you'll need a comb - a wide one with lots of teeth is perfect - you won't find much success with a hairbrush here.

Step 1



Fold paper

Step 2



Measure

2. Place the comb inside the folded paper so the teeth are pointing away from the fold.

3. If the length of the paper is wider than the comb, cut off the excess from the sides.

4. You're now ready to perform! Play your comb kazoo by holding the comb by the edges, placing the fold of the paper to your lips and humming (just blowing won't make any sound).

Step 3



Cut paper

Step 4



Place comb

How It Works

An ordinary kazoo also has a small sheet of tissue paper inside, called the 'membrane'. Humming or speaking into the kazoo causes the membrane to vibrate, making that cool buzzing sound.

This works differently from other instruments you'd blow into, so rather than being a wind instrument, kazoos are more like drums! How weird. An instruments that creates sound by vibrating a stretched membrane in known as a *Membranophone*.