



Maracas with Plastic Cups or Yogurt Containers

What You Need:

- 2 plastic cups or yogurt containers — the same size — clean and dry
- 1/2 cup of coffee beans or dried peas or macaroni, rice or beads.
- Glue (hot glue will work well but requires adult supervision)
- Masking tape.
- Paint (acrylic paint is the best for this type of material but you can also use poster paint or tempera with glue added to it to make it stick to the plastic.)
- Fabric (optional)

What You Do:

1. Put the beans or peas into one of the cups or containers
2. Hot glue the 2 containers together.
3. Wrap masking tape around the rims for added support.
4. Paint the shaker with bright colors and glue on fabric pieces too if you wish.



Maracas with Recycled Objects

What You Need:

- 2 8 oz (236 mL) water bottles
- 2 toilet paper rolls
- Electrical tape (colorful, if possible)
- Filling for your maracas.
- Any of the following:
Sand, salt, pebbles, birdseed, rice, beans, small beads, large beads, dried pasta, rice, dried peas or beans, small washers, paper clips, small erasers.

Although you can use any type of small plastic bottles, the 8 oz (236 mL) size water bottles are just perfect for this project in size and shape. If you've sworn off plastic, then ask around. A neighbor, classmate or local store may offer you what they might have sent out as recycling.

You'll also need two toilet paper rolls and some sturdy tape. Electrical tape works best and colorful electrical tape adds a nice decorative touch to what you are creating.

Then you'll need some fillings. Remember each filling produces a different sound, so that may also be part of your plan for creating your set of maracas. For instance, sand or salt maracas will be very quiet. Dried beans, macaroni or large bead maracas will be nice and loud.

What You Do:

First take your clean and dried 8 oz water bottle and fill with your chosen contents. Close it up with the cap and then listen to the sound. Once it sounds good to your ears, then you can move to the next step.

The next step is to create the handle. Take the 2 toilet paper rolls and make a straight cut from one end to the other. Tighten the roll in on itself to about the size of a 3/4 in dowel and then apply your electrical tape. Start wrapping the tape around the bottom part of the rattle on the bottle and move down onto the new handle. Wrap slowly, covering all the cardboard of the toilet paper roll and you will have created a rather sturdy handle for your new instrument.

Now you are ready to play!