

How to make Maracas

What You'll Need:

- Empty water bottle with lid (tip: make sure it's dry inside)
- Dried Beans or Rice
- Funnel
- Duck Tape (tip: colorful duck tape makes the maracas look festive)
- Empty cardboard toilet tissue roll
- Optional: Colorful acrylic paints and paintbrushes

Use a funnel to fill the empty water bottle with dried rice and/or beans about halfway to three-quarters of the way full. An all-rice bottle will make a very different sound when you shake it than an all-beans bottle. Have fun experimenting to find the sound you want.

Tightly close the water bottle with the lid.

Use scissors to cut a straight line down the length of a cardboard toilet tissue roll. Make a handle out of the cardboard roll by attaching it to your bottle like this: Start at the lid of the water bottle and tightly wrap the cardboard roll around it. Mine went around about one and a half times. It all depends on the size of your bottle's opening. There's no wrong way to do it, just be sure to wrap the cardboard tightly so it creates a sturdy handle.

Keep a good hold on the roll handle while you secure it with duck tape around it. Be sure to start taping above where the cardboard roll meets the water bottle so that it will stay attached. Wrap duck tape all the way down the cardboard roll. When you reach the end of the handle, cut it off.

Use another piece (about 2 inches long) of duck tape to cover the hole at the bottom of the handle. I just squeezed our roll shut at the bottom and stuck a piece of tape from one side to the other.

That's really all there is to it. Your homemade maraca is ready to play at a Cinco de Mayo party!

If you want, you can decorate your maraca with colorful paint, stickers, sticky foam or whatever you can imagine.

See photos of this craft and more at <http://www.MomAlwaysFindsOut.com>

