

Mini Djembe



Materials:

- Styrofoam or plastic cups (2 per drum)
(You can get biodegradable “plastic” cups made out of corn for a more environmentally friendly version.)
- Masking tape
- Hot glue/glue gun
- Shoe polish or brown paint
(You may wish to stick to non-toxic tempera paint for small children. Although the shoe polish looks the best, it also smells, stains and can be toxic.)
- Permanent markers
- String

Instructions:

- Hot glue two cups together at the narrow end.
- Using masking tape, wrap the tape around the cups. Place several layers of overlapping tape over the opening to create the drum head. Keep the tape good and tight for a good sound. You can have either a one-headed or two-headed drum depending on your preference. Real Djembes only have one head.
- Once the entire thing is covered in tape, put paint or shoe polish onto a rag (small amounts at a time) and rub it over the tape in thin layers to create a wood grain effect.
- Let dry completely.
- Using permanent markers (black shows up best, but any colour will do), decorate your drum with designs. Be creative!
- If desired, tie a string around the middle of your drum and tie a loop so the drum can be hung up or worn around the neck or over the shoulder.
- Play the drum! Experiment with different finger taps and listen to African music for groovy rhythms.

For more on Djembes and other West African drums, visit www.thegoatworks.com.