

Drums

Materials:

- Drum body – something cylindrical with an open end
 - Can, plastic container, flower pot, large cardboard tube, glass bowl
 - Requirements:
 - Needs to be able to stand up on its own (although you just hold it)
 - Needs to be stiff enough to allow the head to be attached
 - The harder the material the better the sound
- Drum head
 - Balloon large enough to cover opening, packing tape, flexible plastic, stiff plastic (see note in instructions below)
 - Requirements:
 - Needs to be able to be stretched tightly across the opening
 - Needs to be strong enough that you won't break it when you play your drum with sticks or your hands
- Material for attaching the head to your drum
 - Elastic bands, tape, glue (quick setting and strong is best)
- Sticks to play your drum with (if you want)
- Decorations – up to you! Do these first if you are going to.

Instructions:

1. Cover the top of your container with your drum head
 - a. Strongly attach the head to the body with an elastic or tape – the tighter the head the better [When I used to do African drumming people joked that the proper way to tune a djembe was to tighten it until the skin popped and then back off a notch]
2. NOTE: If you are using a stiff piece of plastic for your drum head:
 - a. Trace the drum head onto your plastic.
 - b. Cut out the plastic about 1 ½ to 2 inches bigger than your traced circle
 - c. Cut triangular notches between the cut out edge and your traced inner circle. About every inch or so. These will allow you to bend down this “extra” plastic over the edge of your drum body.
 - d. Tape or elastic band in place
3. NOTE 2: If you are using packing tape to create your drum head, please check with a responsible adult before selecting your drum body!
 - a. Create your drum head by taping multiple times across the opening of your body. Criss-cross to make sure the entire opening is covered

Notes: You can actually turn pretty much anything into a drum by just banging on it. Try an empty yoghurt container with the lid on. (Or upside down with or without the lid). The possibilities are endless. Here's a link with instructions for a number of ways to make drums <https://www.wikihow.com/Make-Drums-for-Kids>