

Make a Xylophone

Make your own percussion instrument from common household items. It's EASY!

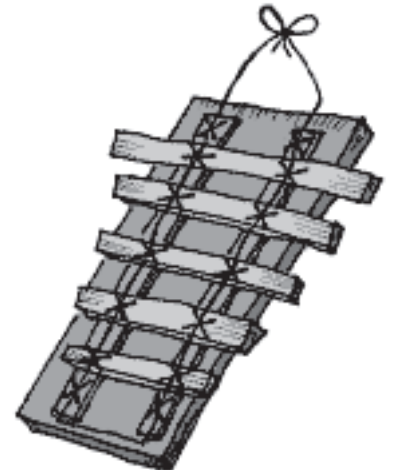


Items you need:

- A wooden base around 12" x 8" x 1"
- Two strips of foam rubber about 12" x 1", or strips of felt or other soft cloth
- 4 or 5 pieces of wood
- A heavy-duty staple gun (3/8-inch staples) OR hot glue or white glue
- 2 feet of twine or other thin rope

Instructions:

1. Staple or glue the foam rubber or soft cloth to the wood base (use a lot of glue) as shown:
2. Place the wood pieces across the base, in order of size.
3. Staple the end of the twine to one side of the base.
4. Lay the twine across the bars and staple the twine to each bar, then staple the twine to the opposite side of the base, and back again, once again stapling each bar (to provide stability), and then, finally back onto the base near where you had started. If this sounds a bit complicated, just look at the drawing and staple wherever you see an X. You may need to hammer the staples a bit to make them tight. The whole idea of the twine is to make this a bounce-less, more portable instrument.



(If you don't have a staple gun, you can use glue; just glob it on - use a lot - at the same points you would staple and press the twine into the globs using a pencil to push if you have hot glue.)

Make sure your glue is FULLY dry before playing your instrument, about 24 hours for white glue!