

# DIY Maracas

The science behind maracas involves how vibrations and sound are created when the instrument is shaken.

## Some important characteristics

**Shaking and Sound:** Maracas have a hollow part filled with small objects. When you shake them, these objects vibrate, and the hollow part makes the sound.

**Pitch and Size:** The size of the maracas and the filling material affect the pitch or how high or low the sound is. Bigger maracas with heavier fillings make lower sounds, while smaller ones with lighter fillings make higher sounds.

**Damping and Decay:** Damping refers to how quickly the sound fades away after shaking. The type of filling and design of the maracas influence how long the sound lasts.

**Materials and Volume:** The material of the maracas affects the sound. The force with which you shake them determines how loud the sound is.

**Cultural Influence:** In addition to the science, how maracas are played, and their role in different cultures also contribute to their sound and musical impact.

Understanding these simple principles helps us appreciate how maracas produce the rhythmic and lively sounds they are known for in various musical settings.



# Maracas DIY

## Activity Overview:

Making DIY maracas with Easter eggs and plastic spoons can be a fun and creative project

## What you need:

- Plastic Easter eggs
- Plastic spoons (two for each maraca)
- Small pebbles, rice, or dried beans for filling
- Coloured tape or decorative washi tape
- Hot glue gun and glue sticks (Optional)

## Instructions:

**Fill the Easter eggs:** Open the plastic Easter eggs and fill them with small pebbles, rice, or dried beans. The filling will create a shaking sound when you use the maracas. Adjust the amount of filling based on your preference for the sound.

**Secure the Easter eggs:** Close the Easter eggs tightly and secure them with a small piece of tape.

Put two spoons together, with the heads of the spoons facing. Grab your washi tape and begin wrapping it tightly around the handles of the spoons. Alternate with different washi tape patterns to make your maraca handles more colourful.

Open the heads of the spoons slightly and set an egg inside the heads of the spoon.

Wrap your egg with washi tape, beginning by going over the seam of the egg. Going around with the tape 2-3 times around the seam will make it more secure.

**Shake and enjoy:** Your DIY Easter egg maracas are ready to use! Hold the plastic spoons and shake the maracas to create fun and festive sounds.

