

Tissue Box Guitar

You will need:

A large, rectangular tissue box

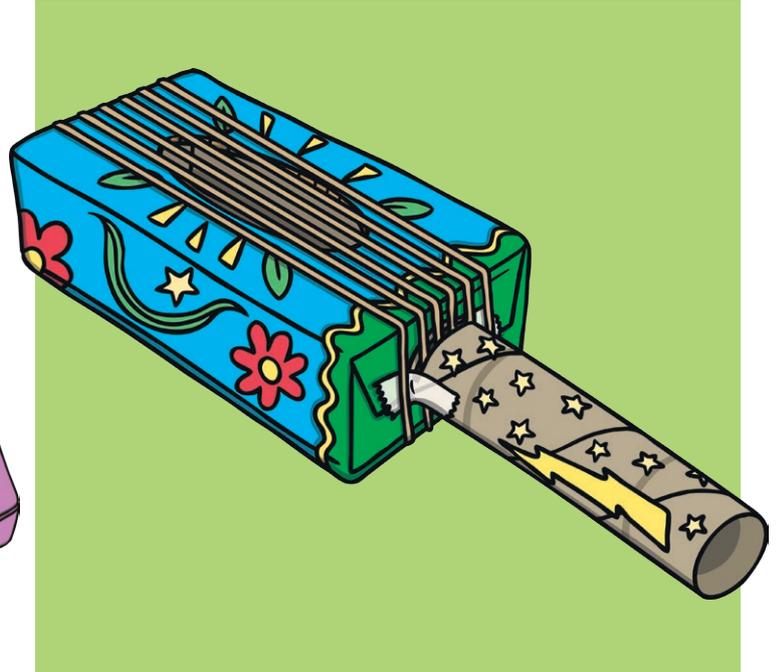
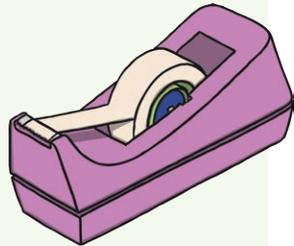
A long cardboard tube
(e.g. paper towel roll)

Different types of rubber bands

Pencil or marker

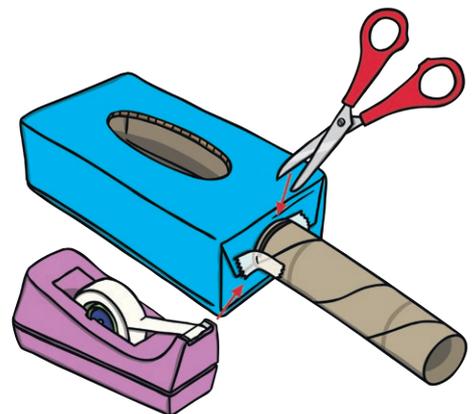
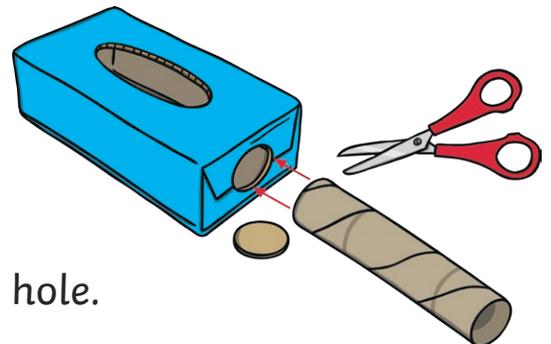
Scissors

Sticky tape

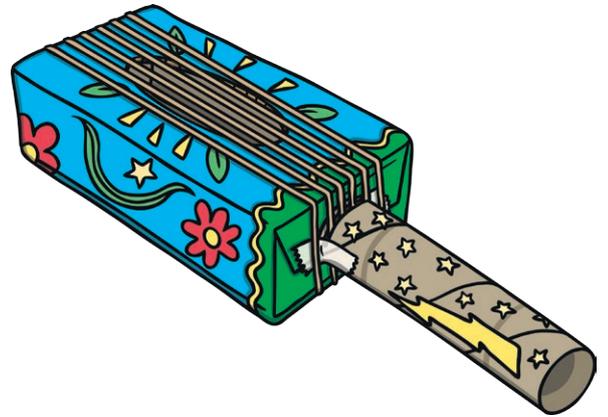


Instructions

1. Remove the plastic from the opening of the tissue box.
2. Find the top of the tissue box and in the centre (on the smallest face), trace around the cardboard tube using a marker or pencil.
3. Carefully, cut out the traced circle to create a hole.
4. Place the cardboard tube about 5cm inside the hole to make the neck of the guitar. Secure it with sticky tape.
5. Carefully, cut a slit where the cardboard tube meets the tissue box. This slit should go halfway into the tube so rubber bands can be stretched through it.

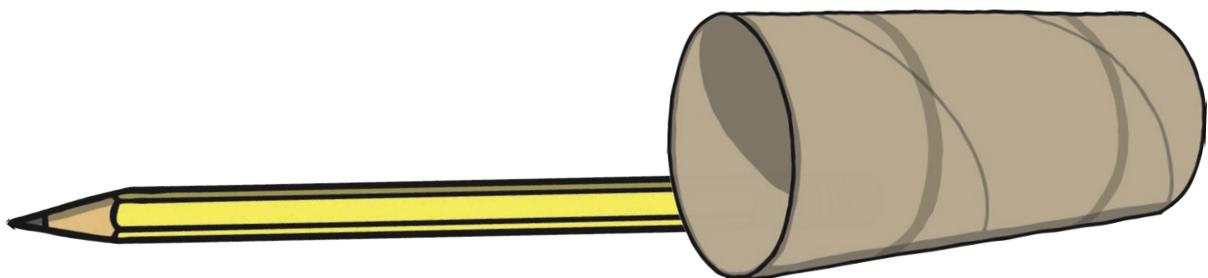


6. To place strings in the middle of your tissue box opening, you will need to stretch some rubber bands lengthways around the outside of the tissue box and between the slit.
7. Secure the slit again with sticky tape.
8. Stretch the rest of your rubber bands lengthways around the outside of the tissue box and over the opening to create the strings.
9. Decorate your guitar.



Suggested Modifications

- Cut two slits at the top of the cardboard tube (neck of the guitar). Use some coloured card or cardboard to create a headstock for the guitar. Slide the headstock into the slits.
- Use different rubber bands that are either thicker, thinner, longer or shorter.
- Make a guitar using a different shaped box.
- Make bridges using card and sticky tape. Place them under the strings at the top and bottom of the base of the guitar. Bridges raise the strings, letting them vibrate more freely. This creates a better sound.
- Make a simple guitar neck by taping a ruler to the back of the tissue box.



Ask yourself...

Do all your rubber band strings sound the same?

Why or why not?

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Ask yourself...

What can you see happening to the rubber bands?

Why do you think this is happening?

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Ask yourself...

What do you think would happen to the sound if you used a different box or a tin?

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Ask yourself...

Would removing the cardboard tube (neck) of the guitar make a difference to its sound?

Why or why not?

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Ask yourself...

What would the sound be like if there was no hole under the strings?

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