

MAKE YOUR OWN



# SISTRUM



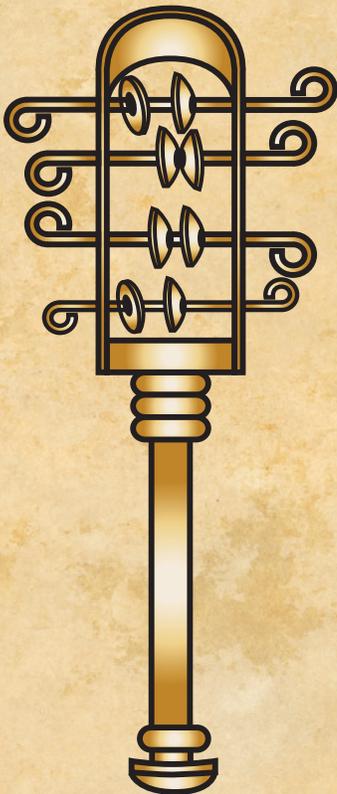
FROM NATURAL MATERIALS

## INFO

### SISTRUM:

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A sistrum was used in ancient Egypt as a special hand-held rattle or percussion instrument. It was most often played by priestesses or court musicians for the pharaohs and nobility. If you'd like to make your own natural version, here are some simple instructions.



## SUPPLIES:

- Small tree branch shaped like a “Y”
- A small amount of floral wire, jewelry wire, fishing twine or embroidery thread
- Materials for decoration
- Bangles for sound – any of the following: bottle caps, beads, assorted buttons, jingle bells or metal washers
- Hammer and nail or awl *(for putting holes in bottle caps)*

## INSTRUCTIONS:

Begin by finding a smaller tree branch shaped like a “Y”. If you like, you can sand the ends to make them smoother. You can also sand the surface to remove the bark, if you like.

Next, find materials for the bangles. You can use buttons, beads or jingle bells or the tabs from pop-top soda cans. To turn bottle caps into bangles, place them on a work surface (like a piece of wood) and gently hammer a hole through the center with a nail or a pointed tool like an awl.

Now, thread your bangles onto the floral or jewelry wire. You can also use fishing twine or embroidery thread, but wire keeps the objects in place better. Secure at each end and test the sound by moving it from one side to another.

Feel free to get creative with your natural sistrum. You might like to wrap it in colorful yarn, add paint or even ribbons and feathers. Aside from sounding great when played, it can be a beautiful, natural piece of artwork!

## ENJOY!



**TREE BRANCH SISTRUM WITH BOTTLE CAPS, JINGLE BELLS AND POP TOP TABS AS BANGLES.**