

Make Your Own Bubble Solution and DIY Bubble Wand Tips!

Let's have fun getting ready for the **Dan the Music Man show!** We're going to be making bubbles with Dan the Music Man. Be sure to also check out the 3-in-1 musical percussion instrument activity for making music together as well!

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You can buy pre-made solutions easily in the summer, but whipping up your own homemade bubble mix is not only inexpensive, you'll never have to worry about running out ever again...make buckets of it for a never ending supply!

Here are several easy recipes that require just a few basic ingredients that you likely have in your pantry already.

Don't Miss 'Em: You'll find a few tips and tricks at the bottom of this article for tinting with colour and DIY monster-sized gadgets and wands (terrific way to experiment and have hilarious family competitions). Lots here to make the most out of your bubble blowing adventures...have fun!

Recipes / Homemade Solutions

Note: Soap or Detergent listed in the ingredients below refers to liquid dish detergent. While any brand will do, (regular/original) Dawn, Palmolive and Joy are popular choices

- 1 Cup warm water, 1 tablespoon soap, 1 teaspoon glycerin, 1 teaspoon sugar. Combine and leave overnight before using for best results.
- 2 C. water, 1/4 C. soap and 1 TBS light corn syrup.
- 1 1/4 C. water with 1/4 C. light corn syrup and 1/4 C. Dawn dish soap.
Directions: Combine first two ingredients then heat for about 2 minutes in the microwave. Stir then add Dawn.
- 1 C. distilled water, 1/4 C. soap, 1/4 C. glycerin and a pinch of sugar.
- 1/2 C. water, 1/4 C. detergent, 1 teaspoon sugar.
- 2/3 C. distilled water, 1/3 C. soap, 1 tsp vegetable oil (set aside overnight then it's ready to go the next day).
- *Gelatin:* 2 packages unflavoured gelatin, 4 C. hot water (just boiled), 3 to 5 tablespoons glycerine and 3 tablespoons dish detergent. *Directions:* Dissolve the gelatin in the water then add the glycerine and detergent. If you don't use it all in one play session, reheat it the next time you use it (will gel as it sits).
- *Jell-O:* 1/4 C. detergent, 1/4 C. Jell-O (any flavor), 2 1/4 C. warm water. Don't overmix.

Quick Tips

- Add a few drops of liquid food colouring to tint the batch in the colour of your choice.
- If you make big batches at once, cleaned plastic milk jugs are just the ticket for storing the solutions.
- Feel free to tweak the ingredients above and experiment to find a mixture that gives the best results.



Tips For Biggest / Strongest / Unbreakable

- For those recipes that don't require heating first, try leaving them overnight before using since the result is a stronger batch.
- The purpose of glycerin and corn syrup mentioned in some of the mixes above is to strengthen the solution so it won't pop as easily.
- If you don't have glycerin on hand, you can substitute with light corn syrup.
- Distilled water will provide best results but you can substitute with regular tap water if needed.

Creative Ideas For DIY Blowers & Wands

Some of these you'll need a bucket to dip into and instead of blowing into them, you'll wave them around with your arms.

- Pipe cleaners (twist and shape into wands), you can create all kinds of shapes (stars, circles, squares, etc.) and twist more than one pipe cleaner together if needed
- Plastic straws
- Empty plastic bottles (with either the bottoms removed so you can blow through them, or keep the bottoms on and just squeeze the bottle to push out air through the opening)
- Straws strung with yarn or string and tied together (try square or triangle shapes, these turn out monster-sized bubbles when they're dipped completely in the mix!)
- Small fruit mesh baskets (like those from strawberries and blueberries)
- Rubber canning rings or the metal jar lid rings
- Cookie cutters
- Paper towel tube
- Plastic coated wire hangers (twist and shape as desired). You'll need a pair of wire cutters to make them. Martha Stewart had a great idea: Create shapes like hearts, stars, etc. For an extra fun touch, add plastic pony beads up the stem. This is a great project for the kids to do on rainy days.
- Plastic 6-pack rings (from soda cans)
- Cooking spatulas, spoons and other kitchen utensils with slots
- Styrofoam cups with the bottoms cut out (for blowing) or holes cut into the bottom (using the top of the cup for blowing out the bottom)



For more fun activities and ideas, visit:
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