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# Making Your Own Katsugi Okedo

## by Karen Young & The Genki Spark

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You will need:

- One piece cardboard tubing, 12" diameter x 19" long
- Two 5-gallon paint bucket lids
- Box cutter
- One can spray paint
- Two djembe rings. Diameter should be 14.25", 14.5", or 14.75"
- One roll duct tape
- 25 yards filament tape (aka strapping tape)
- 100 yards packing tape
- Leather punch
- 60+ feet braided nylon rope
- One guitar strap that expands to approximately 65"

Total cost: About \$50



## Cardboard tubing

The diameter can vary as much as 1/4", so choose carefully. The tubing needs to be exactly 12" so that paint bucket rings can be used as reinforcements.

The body of the okedo should be 19" long.





## 5-gallon paint bucket lids

These rings reinforce the cardboard tubing and preserve the edges of your drum.

Make sure the tubing you get fits the lid exactly. Some tubing, even though marked 12", is really bigger.

Cut out the center of the paint bucket lid with a box cutter.

## Paint

One can of spray paint allowed for two coats plus some for the inside (you can see the inside of the tube even with the heads attached).

You might need a primer if you go with light colors or neon. We also thought about using a water seal on the outside as a final coat, just in case we got caught in the rain, but you don't really need it if you're using gloss or metallic paint.





## Djembe Rings & Duct Tape

The rings should be 14.5", 14.75", or 14.25".

Make sure you have two identical rings.

We added weight by adding duct tape to the inside of the drum and also by taping the rings.

Djembe rings are available online at [rhythmtraders.com](http://rhythmtraders.com).

## Filament Tape

We used filament tape + packing tape on one side and just clear packing tape on the other, which allowed us to have two different tones. We practice on the filament side, which is stronger.

We used a radial pattern and made sure to start and stop near the rings so the ends would be covered by duct tape.





## Packing Tape

We used two layers on the packing tape side and one layer on the filament side.

This took a lot longer than we thought (an hour per head) but it might be because some of us are obsessed with perfection.

You will need 100 yards of packing tape.

## More Duct Tape

We reinforced the edges with duct tape. We added two layers but you could get away with one. We knew we'd be punching holes and wanted something to prevent the rope from tearing the tape.

We also put lettering on the inside of the head. Trisha Kita-Mah was really creative and inserted a mesh screen under the bucket lid and filled it with confetti so every time you hit the drum, confetti bounces around!

Holes were made with a leather punch.





## Rope

You will need 60+ feet of 1/4" braided nylon rope.

Make sure to burn your ends to prevent fraying.

## Straps

You can use any guitar strap that expands to approximately 65". They are available at most music stores.



Thanks to Karen Young & The Genki Spark for allowing SJT to share this information. See the QR code for more tutorial photos on The Genki Spark's Facebook photo album.

