

Homemade Zampoñas

Zampoñas are an iconic instrument of the Andes and Andean music, yet you don't need to purchase one from a music store to enjoy their sound. Familiarize yourself with the sounds of Andean music by listening to the song "Takirari de Verano" (<https://youtu.be/m3FCtb58yR0>) and watch this demonstration of a musician playing zampoña (https://youtu.be/7tif_8kFHsk)

What you will need

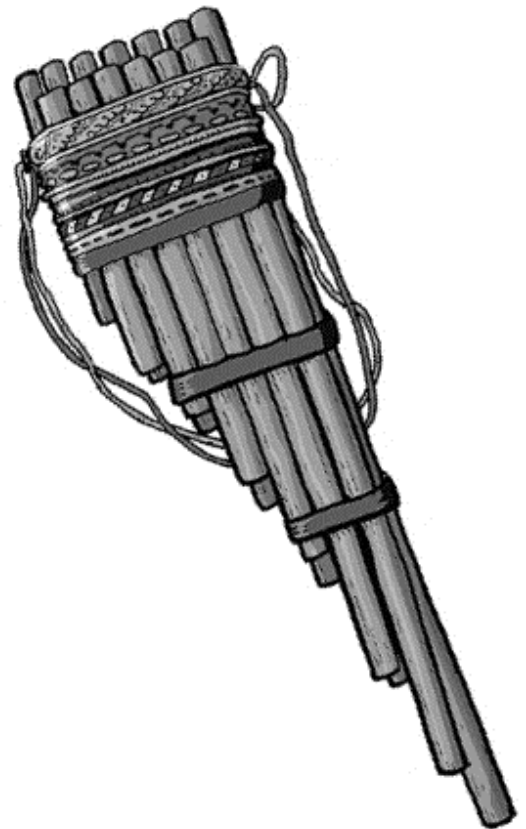
- 10 straws
 - Bigger/thicker straws work best
- Scissors
- A ruler or measuring tape
- Tape

Constructing the "Ira" side

- Cut straws to the following lengths:
 - 3.75"
 - 4.5"
 - 5.75"
 - 7"
 - 8.5"
- Tape the cut straws together from shortest to longest

Constructing the "Arka" side

- Cut straws to the following lengths:
 - 3.5"
 - 4.25"
 - 5"
 - 6.5"
 - 7.75"
- Tape the cut straws together from shortest to longest



Assemble your zampoña by placing the "Ira" side in front of the "Arka" side.

Let's play some music!

Let's try playing the following melody based on a traditional Diana, a piece played between other melodies. First to play the zampoña, blow over the straw you want to play with strong focused air, sort of like blowing over a soda bottle. To read the music, play the indicated straw on the corresponding side (the "Ira" side should be closest to your face). On each side, the numbers go from shortest to longest with 1 being the shortest, thus you will start the Diana by playing on the second shortest straw on Arka side followed by the second shortest straw on the Ira side and so forth.

Arka --2-----3-----2-----3-----4-----5-----4-----5-----
Ira -----2-----3-----2-----3-----4-----5-----4-----5-----