

HOW TO BUILD A TIPPY TAP FOR HAND WASHING

Counselling Card

Materials Needed:

1. Two wooden branches (2 metre length, Y-shaped end)
2. Two thinner sticks 1 metre long (one for Tippy Tap handle, one for foot pedal)
3. Saw to cut wood
4. 8 to 11 cm length nail
5. Piece of cloth or nail pliers
6. Heat source (flame)



7. Spade or shovel
8. Two pieces of rope (0.5 metre for cap; 1 metre for foot pedal)
9. 3- or 5-litre jerry can
10. Soap
11. Piece of wood same length as piece of soap
12. Screwdriver or tool to make hole through soap
13. Rocks, gravel for soak pit

How to Build a Tippy Tap:

- 1 Mark hole.** Select clean, empty 3-litre or 5-litre plastic container. Mark location for hole, about 12 cm below cap.



- 2 Heat the nail.** Hold the nail with a pair of pliers or a cloth, and heat the nail with any flame.



- 3 Make holes.** With hot nail, make hole in container, and second hole in cap.



- 4 Insert rope.** Put longer piece of rope (1 metre) through hole in cap. Start by putting end of rope through outside surface of cap so loose end of rope ends up on inside of cap.



- 5 Knot rope.** Make a knot in the rope that rests on inside surface of cap. Make knot big enough that knot cannot be pulled back through cap. Screw cap back on container. Knot should now be inside container with remaining long, loose end of rope hanging outside container.



- 6 Attach stick (foot pedal).** Tie end of rope to 1 metre stick. Stick is now connected to container with rope. This is foot pedal for Tippy Tap.

Note—You can adjust the length of the rope, if needed, during Step 11.



Instructions adapted from, "How to Make a Tippy Tap – A hygienic handwashing device with running water. Authors/Photos Mark Tiele Westra. Werkgroep OntwikkelingsTechnieken (WOT); University of Twente, the Netherlands; Henk Holtslag Connect International.



- 7 Make hole through soap.** Using tool (e.g. screwdriver, stick), make hole through soap by slowly rotating and pushing tool through the soap.



- 8 Insert rope.** Put shorter, second piece of rope (.5 metre) through hole in soap and tie to short stick or piece of wood.



- 9 Fill container.** Fill container with water, up to level of hole.



- 10 Put poles in ground.** Decide best place to put Tippy Tap. Should be where frequent hand washing should take place (near a latrine or kitchen). With shovel or spade, make two holes in ground to depth of 50 cm. Place poles about 70 cm apart. Put poles in holes and pack soil around them.



- 11 Hang jerry can, foot pedal stick, and soap rope.**

- Put stick through handle of jerry can, and put stick between two poles. Jerry can should now be hanging from stick.
- Tie rope with soap near jerry can so it is hanging from stick. (If no soap available, use container to hold ash).
- Make sure rope for foot pedal is adjusted so that one end of stick/foot pedal hangs about 15cm above ground and other end of stick rests on ground.



- 12 Make soak pit.** Make hole (40x40cm and 20cm deep) under jerry can where water will fall). Fill hole with rocks. This is a soak pit that keeps Tippy Tap from becoming mud hole, mosquito breeding place.



To Use:

Push stick down with foot. This tips container, which makes water run out of hole. Wet hands and release stick. Apply soap (or ash) to hands. Push stick down again and rinse hands.



How to Maintain Tippy Tap:

1. Keep Tippy Tap full of water by refilling so it is always ready for use.
2. Wash inside and outside of tippy tap weekly or sooner if it looks dirty.
3. Replace soap (or ash) when used up.
4. Replace wooden sticks over time to prevent collapse.

TIPPY TAP

wash your hands
with soap

