

MAKE YOUR OWN ABACUS

What You Need:

- Pencil
- 9 craft sticks
- 4 bamboo skewers or stir sticks
- 28 beads for Chinese abacus (Suanpan), or 20 beads for Japanese abacus (Soroban)
- Craft glue gun, school glue or wood glue



What You Do:

Step 1: Use the pencil to draw four evenly spaced lines on 3 craft sticks.

Step 2: Align the stir sticks with the pencil marks on the craft stick. The end of stir sticks to the top stick is about 1/3 of its length.

Step 3: Glue stir sticks to the craft stick in the middle and wait until the glue dries.

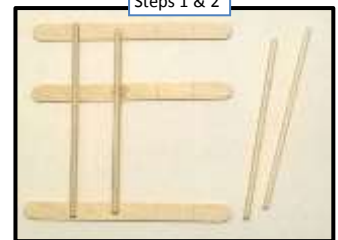
Step 4: Thread beads on each of the four stir sticks. For Chinese abacus, thread two on the top and five on the bottom. For Japanese abacus, thread one on the top and four on the bottom.

Step 5: Glue stir sticks to the craft sticks at the top and the bottom. Wait until the glue dries.

Step 6: Glue three craft sticks on top of the stir sticks so they line up with the sticks below.

Step 7: Stack and glue the remaining three craft sticks on top of the sticks you just glued. They allow beads to move freely. Wait until the glue dries. Flip the abacus so the stacked sticks are at the bottom.

Steps 1 & 2



Steps 3 & 4



Step 5



Step 6



Step 7



Complete!



Enjoy the abacus you just made!