

The Aboriginal invention of a Didgeridoo.

Information all about the Aboriginal
didgeridoo.





1. Possibly the world's oldest musical instrument.

2. A wind instrument originally found in Arnhem Land, Northern Australia.

3. Is made from limbs and tree trunks hollowed out by termites (insects).

4. Is cut to an average length of 1.3 meters and cleaned out with a stick. or hot coals.

- WHAT IS THE DIDGERIDOO USED FOR?
- The didgeridoo is an Aboriginal instrument which, traditionally, is important in Aboriginal ceremony. It is musical, and today it is used to play contemporary music, but traditionally this was not the role of the didgeridoo. The voice of the didgeridoo was part of story telling and teaching.



- **1. AREA** It is generally believed that didgeridoo were sourced from the Northern areas of the Northern Territory and the North East of the Kimberley's. These areas correspond to the distribution of two types of eucalyptus trees, the stringy bark and the woolly butt. In traditional times Aborigines in Central Australia would trade their unique boomerangs for various sizes of tope end didgeridoos both wood and bamboo. In the past 100 years didgeridoos have been cut and fabricated throughout Queensland, Western New South Wales and Western Australia.



- "Didgeridoo" is usually considered to be an onomatopoeic word of Western invention, but it has been said that it may be derived from the Irish words dúdaire or dúidire, meaning variously 'trumpeter; constant smoker, puffer; long-necked person, eavesdropper; hummer, crooner' and dubh, meaning "black" (or duth, meaning "native"). It is alleged that upon seeing the instrument played for the first time, a British army Officer turned to his Gaelic aide and asked "What's that?", to which the aide bemusedly replied, "dúdaire dubh," meaning 'black piper.' However, this is unlikely as the Irish word for a black person is actually fear gorm (literally "blue person"). The earliest occurrences of the word in print include the Australian National Dictionary 1919, The Bulletin in 1924 and the writings of Herbert Basedow in 1926. There are numerous names for this instrument among the Aboriginal people of northern Australia, with yirdaki one of the better known words in modern Western society. Yirdaki, also sometimes spelt yidaki, refers to the specific type of instrument made and used by the Yolngu people of north-east Arnhem Land. In Western Arnhem Land, mago is used, although it refers specifically to the local version. Many believe that it is a matter of etiquette to reserve tribal names for tribal instruments, though retailers and businesses have been quick to exploit these special names for generic tourist-oriented instruments.

Fun fact

- Only men are allowed to play the didgeridoo and woman can only play the tapping sticks.

What is a didgeridoo similar to now days?

The didgeridoo is classified as a wind instrument and is similar in form to a **straight trumpet**, but made of wood. It has also been called a drone pipe.

Was it used by all Aboriginal people in different language groups?

The didgeridoo was developed by Aboriginal peoples of northern Australia at least 1,500 years ago, and is now in use around the world, though still most strongly associated with Indigenous Australian music.





Finished thanks for
watching/listening hope
you enjoyed BYE!