

HANDMADE BOTTLE LIGHTS

Support Brooke from home How to make handmade bottle lights

These bottle lights can be made and sold at local events in your area. The money you raise can be donated to Brooke to help working horses, donkeys and mules around the world.



Instructions

These are quite easy to make and are popular at various fundraising events. It can be a bit fiddly to get labels off empty bottles but it's fun to see what unusual bottles you can find to use. You can also get lights in different colours to use, although white is usually the most popular choice.

You will need

- Empty bottles with tops the size of wine bottles (LED lights come with corks attached, and fit standard wine bottle necks)
- A cloth or scrubbing pad or craft knife
- Some warm soapy wash water to soak off labels
- Something to get the sticky residue off the bottles such as an oil-based product used to dissolve gooey messes
- Something to sterilise the inside of the bottle eg. diluted bleach or home brewing steriliser
- Ready assembled strings of 20 LED lights attached to a plastic cork (which contains 3 replaceable batteries)
- Tags to hang around the neck to explain that there are 3 replaceable LR44 batteries in the 'cork'
- Items can be purchased online via AmazonSmile. Select Brooke as your chosen charity and we will receive a donation as a result of your purchases



Optional:

- Cut out horse or donkey shapes from sticky backed vinyl to decorate your bottle
- Long thin wooden stick to help position the lights evenly inside the bottle
- A knife to cut off any metal bands around the top of the bottle

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Step 1

Read the safety information on any equipment you will be using like sterilizing fluid and make sure that you have any personal protective equipment (PPE) required, such as gloves.

Step 2

Soak your bottle in warm soapy water (eg washing up liquid) to remove all labels. Depending on whether the label is water soluble or not this will take either a few minutes or maybe need soaking overnight.

Step 3

Scrape labels off bottle and if necessary cut off any remaining seal around the neck of the bottle. (Take care if using a knife and maybe get someone else to help with this stage). You may need to use a sticky residue remover to remove any remaining sticky residue on the bottle.

Step 4

Sterilize the inside of the bottle by using a diluted bleach solution or beer makers' sterilizer – be careful to follow manufacturers' instructions.

Step 5

Once bottle is thoroughly dry carefully unravel the string of LED lights you are going to use and insert into bottle.

Step 6

Optional step: Position cut out shape of horse or donkey (sticky vinyl or similar) on front of bottle.

Step 7

Hang information tag around bottle to explain that there are 3 replaceable LR44 batteries in the "cork".

Step 8

Step back and admire your handy work and think how it will help the work of Brooke in supporting working horses, donkeys and mules and those whose lives depend on them in some of the poorest communities of the world.

We would love to hear how you get on making and selling these bottle lights.

You can get in touch with us at any time by calling 020 7470 9393 or email us at community@thebrooke.org



With enormous thanks to
Kathy Griffiths for
providing the instructions
for this how to guide

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