HOW TO USE YOUR "TIPPY TAP"

- Step on the pedal so that the tippy tap tips up and water flows onto your hand
- Use soap (or ash if soap is not available).
- Tip the “Tippy Tap” again by stepping on the pedal and rinse off the soap with clean water.

"TIPPY TAP"

Availability of running water is the main reason why people fail to wash their hands regularly.

Here is an idea that only uses a small amount of water to wash hands. The “Tippy Tap” is a simple tool made from an old plastic container such as those cooking oil comes in.

MATERIALS NEEDED FOR A "TIPPY TAP"

An empty oil container with a handle and a lid
A candle                 A nail
Some string              Two sticks
A piece of soap
A small tin or small plastic container

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HOW TO MAKE YOUR "TIPPY TAP"

1. Choose a plastic container with a handle such as that used for cooking oil. It needs to have the lid as well.

2. Heat the tip of a small nail over the candle or tin lamp. Use the heated nail to make a small hole in the side of the container as shown in the diagram.

3. Pass a stick through the handle of the container and mount this on two forked poles or else use a tree branch as in the picture on the front.

4. Tie a piece of string about around the neck of the container. Attach this string to a stick that will act as a pedal.

5. For hand washing you also need soap. Thread a piece of soap and an empty tin or plastic container through another piece of string. The tin will protect the soap from rain and sun. Attach this string to one of the supporting strings.

6. Fill the “Tippy Tap” with water until it is level with the holes in the back of the bottle. Hang the “Tippy Tap” close to your latrine, or anywhere else where people will wash their hands. The “Tippy Tap” is now ready to use.

An alternative and similar way of making the "tippy tap" is to make the first hole in the handle of the container.

Heat the nail again and use it to make two larger holes on the back of the bottle. The holes should be on the edge of the bottle and at the same level.

Thread some string through the two holes and tie the ends of the string to a stick.