

## How to Create an Elijah's Cup Craft for Kids

Elijah's cup is an important, symbolic part of Passover. It is especially popular among children, especially when the time comes to invite Elijah into your home. While you can always buy a fancy cup, a handmade one is much more special. Allowing your children to make and decorate Elijah's cup themselves is also a great opportunity to teach them about this special part of Passover.

### Things You'll Need

- 2-liter soda bottle
- 3 soda bottle caps
- CD or DVD
- Hot glue gun and hot glue sticks
- Scissors or craft knife
- Spray paint (optional)
- Rhinestones, buttons, and other embellishments



### Part 1: Making the Cup

**Cut a 2-liter soda bottle in half.** You can do this with a pair of

scissors or a craft blade. Discard the bottom portion and keep the top. Take this time to clean out the top part of the bottle and remove any labels or sticker residue.

You can use a smaller soda bottle or water bottle instead, but you'll need something smaller for the base later on.

You can make an Elijah's cup using plastic wine glasses instead. Simply skip on over to the decorating

**2. Clean the cut part of the bottle up.** The top part of the bottle will make the base of your Elijah's cup. Use a pair of scissors to trim down the cut part of the bottle until it is nice, smooth, and even. If you want to, you can trim it down a little further to make a shorter cup.

**3. Glue three bottle caps together to form the stem.** Place a drop of hot glue on top of a soda bottle cap. Quickly place another bottle cap on top of it, upside down, so that the top parts are connected. Draw a line of hot glue around the rim of one of the bottle caps, then place a third bottle cap on top. Make sure that the top part is facing out and that all three bottle caps are aligned.

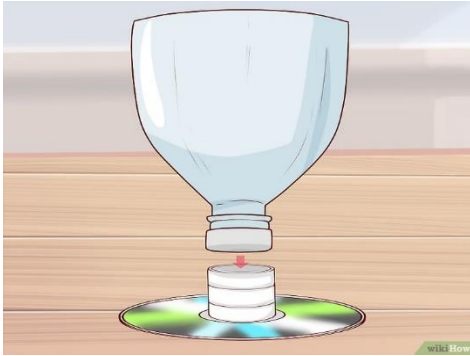
Leave the bottle cap that's already on the bottle in place. Don't include it in the stem.



**4. Glue the stem to an old CD or DVD to make the base.** Flip the disk over so that the blank side is facing you. Draw a line of hot glue around the bottom rim of your bottle cap stem. Quickly press the stem down onto the middle of the disk. Make sure that the top part of the last bottle cap is facing out.

If you can't find a CD or DVD to use, you can use a round, plastic lid from a yogurt container.

If you are using a smaller bottle, a CD or DVD will be too big. Use a small, plastic lid, or cut a disk out of thin cardboard. It should be the same diameter as the bottle.



**Glue the bottle to the top of the stem.** Place a large drop of hot glue on the top of your cut bottle, right in the middle of the cap. Flip the bottle over, and press it down onto the stem. Once again, make sure that all the bottle caps are aligned and even.

## Part 2: Decorating the Cup

**Spray paint the cup a solid color, if desired.** You don't have to do this, but it will help make everything look like it is made from the same material. Silver and gold are great choices, but you can use a different color as well. Don't paint the inside of the cup, especially if you plan on filling it.

If you are using a plastic wine glass, you can leave it clear.

If you don't want to paint the cup but still want it colored, paint it with decoupage glue, then cover it with small pieces of tissue paper. Give it another coat of glue to seal it all in.

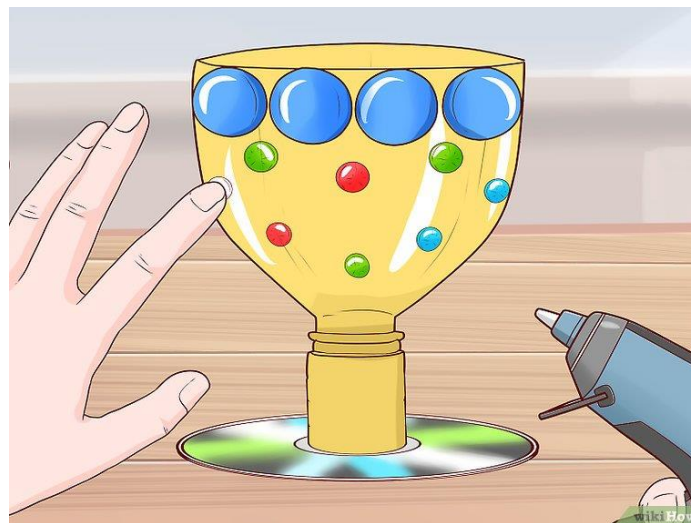


**Hot glue plastic rhinestones around the rim of the cup.** You can use all one shape and color, or you can play around with different shapes and colors for a unique pattern. If you don't have any rhinestones, you can use beads, buttons, sequins, or glass tiles instead. You can also try using self-adhesive rhinestones or rhinestone stickers. This is a great option for younger children. Avoid making the decorations too heavy, or your cup may tip over.

**Consider decorating the cup further.** If you have extra rhinestones left over, you can arrange them on the side/bowl part of your cup in a pretty design. For example, you could hot glue a large rhinestone to the side of the cup, then glue smaller ones around it. To give your cup a nicer touch, outline the rhinestones with glitter glue.



**Decorate the stem, if desired.** This is the part that gets handled the most, so you'll want to go easy on the decorations here. Instead, wrap something flat and smooth around the handle. Great choices include colored/patterned washi tape or ribbon. You can also paint the handle with glue, then wind colored string or yarn around it to cover it up. If your handle still looks too plain, you can hot glue some more rhinestones around the middle. Don't get too carried away, however.



**Glue rhinestones to the disk base of your cup.** Try to use the same pattern that you did on the cup part. You can also make the decorations here a little heavier if you'd like to. This will help give the cup more support. As a final touch, you could outline the edge of the base with glitter glue.

## Tips

- Use a low-temp hot glue gun instead of a high-temp one. The hold may not be as strong, but it is less likely to cause burns or blisters.
- Make another cup for Miriam and fill it with water. Place it next to Elijah's cup.
- If an older child, teenager, or an adult is making the cup, you can use a cheap wine glass instead.
- If this is for very small children, you can use glue dots or foam mounting tape to secure the rhinestones to the glass instead.
- Hot glue will dry the fastest and give you the best hold. You can try using liquid glue, but it will take longer to dry. The decorations may also slide around.
- If your kids are the ones decorating the cup, you can tell or read them the story of Elijah. There is no one way to decorate an Elijah's cup. You can paint the designs on instead or draw them on using a permanent marker.
- For a more delicate cup, you could draw designs using glitter glue.
- Glitter glue needs a while to dry. If you are in a hurry, use glitter hot glue instead. You can also draw your design using hot glue, then sprinkle glitter over it before it dries.

## Warnings

- These glasses may not last more than one seder. If you are careful while washing them, however, you may be able to reuse them next year.
- Older children may use a hot glue gun with adult supervision. It must be a low-temp one, as a high-temp one can cause burns.