

Window Bubbles

Bubbles never go out of style. No matter your age, there is something about the fleeting beauty of a shimmering bubble that holds universal appeal—especially when the bubbles are larger than a baby elephant. Learn how to make a bubble wand, bubble mix, and the health benefits of making giant bubbles. **Tip:** You can make bubbles outside and people can watch them through windows.

Making Giant Bubbles

Blowing little bubbles is fun, but making giant bubbles is deeply satisfying. Giant bubbles look impressive, and, with a little practice, anyone can make a giant bubble..

Commercial bubble wands and mixes generally aren't geared toward making giant bubbles, but you can construct your own bubble solution and equipment.



Brooke's Bubble Mix

(The mix works best if you let it sit for a day or more after mixing it.)

- 1 tablespoon [guar gum](#) or [xanthan gum](#)
- 2 tablespoons rubbing alcohol
- 1/2 cup [glycerin](#)
- 1 cup Dawn dishwashing detergent
- 12 cups tap water
- 8 ounces [Miracle Bubbles](#)

Directions

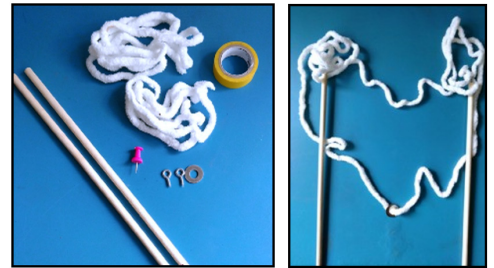
1. Mix guar or xanthan gum and alcohol until there are no powdery chunks. (These thickening agents aren't water soluble, so you need to dissolve them in rubbing alcohol.)
2. Add glycerin and detergent. Mix gently until blended.
3. Add water, continuing to mix with a folding motion. Try to prevent foam or bubbles from forming.
4. Let the mixture sit for 24 to 48 hours at room temperature.
5. Add the Miracle Bubbles.
6. If the mixture is very thick, you can thin with more water, a little bit at a time. If it gets too thin, add a bit more Dawn.

Giant Bubble Wand

- 2 wooden dowels (1/4" thick X 12" long)
- 2 eye hooks (1/4" size)
- 1 flat metal washer (1/4" size)
- One 40" strand of thick, blanket-style yarn and one 30" piece
- 1 nail or tack
- (Optional) Washi or duct tape, paint, or markers

Directions

1. Use the nail or tack to make an initial hole in one end of each of the dowels. Then screw an eye hook into the holes. Twist the eye hook in slowly and as straight as possible so you don't splinter the wood. (You don't have to screw the eye hook in all the way, as long as it's secure.)
2. String the washer onto the 40" piece of yarn. It will dangle in the center of the yarn to weigh it down. Thread one end of the yarn into one of the eye hooks and make a small knot to hold it in place. Repeat with the other end of the yarn and the other eye hook.
3. Thread the ends of the shorter piece of yarn through the eye hooks and knot the same way.
4. (Optional) Decorate your wand with paint or markers or wrap thin duct tape or washi tape around the wand for decoration and a nice hand grip.



Make Some Giant Bubbles

1. Make sure the washer is in the center of the longer piece of string on your bubble wand.
2. Hold the bubble wand with one dowel in each hand. Keep your hands together so the wand is "closed."
3. Dip the yarn into the bowl of bubble mix.
4. Keep the wand "closed" as you lift up your arms.
5. Slowly open the wand. If it's windy, you won't have to move. If it's not windy, you may need to walk a few steps backward to release your bubble.
6. After you've made a bubble, close the wand. There is likely still enough mix in it to make several bubbles before you need more bubble mixture.
7. Practice opening the wand just a little at a time to make small bubbles. Also try moving in a circle.
8. See what happens when the wind is blowing toward you or away from you.

Bubbles for All

- Adults often enjoy making giant bubbles more than kids do. It demands just enough skill to keep you focused and engaged.
- It is a relaxing physical activity that allows you to enjoy the outdoors.
- Watching a giant bubble float into the air is very much like meditation.
- Bubbles reflect light, so they change colors. It's a scientific phenomenon but looks like magic.
- You can't use a computer, talk on a phone, or drive a car while you're making bubbles.
- Neighbors and strangers will inevitably appear and watch, strengthening community and social connections.
- Kids will pop your bubbles. It's a good lesson in non-attachment.
- When you're making bubbles, nobody cares about what jobs you've had, how much money you've made, or how old you are.

