

# What is a tippy tap?

In vulnerable communities where families don't have water on tap in their homes, we're helping individual households create a simple handwashing station of their own.

A Tippy Tap consists of an old plastic container with a hollow handle, three sticks and some string. Using a 'tippy tap' will reduce the spread of disease.

## Here's how a family makes one:

1. Warm the base of the handle over a candle\*. Pinch the softened base of the handle with pliers so that it's sealed tight to prevent water flowing through it.
2. Use a candle to heat the point of a small nail; make a small hole on the outside edge of the handle, just above the sealed area.
3. Heat the nail again and make two larger holes on the back of the bottle, then thread string through the two holes and tie the ends of the string to a stick.
4. Feed a piece of string through a bar of soap and a tin can, and then tie the string to the same stick as the bottle.
5. Tie a piece of string around the neck of the bottle to tip it once it's filled with water, and so the water comes out of the hole in the handle. Alternatively, attach the bottle neck with string to a plank of wood on the ground, so that the bottle tilts when you put your foot on the 'pedal'. Wash your hands before cooking, eating and after going to the loo.



Watch this 1-min film of Ekyoci presenting a Tippy Tap in action:

[bit.ly/taptwinning](https://bit.ly/taptwinning)

**Handwashing is the single most effective way to prevent the spread of infection. We are supporting partners across more than 35 countries who are:**

- distributing hygiene products, including soap, to vulnerable people, including refugees, internally displaced people and migrants
- improving access to clean water, including through rainwater harvesting, water tanks and water storage units
- setting up handwashing stations
- spreading public health information and challenging misinformation and rumours through social media, radio broadcasts, leaflets and loudspeaker announcements in public places.



0300 321 3217

[info@toiletwinning.org](mailto:info@toiletwinning.org)