

♣ Maori Stick Game Instructions and Actions

The stick game was traditionally played by young Maori warriors to improve their coordination, dexterity and alertness. Women also played the game for recreation.

Each person needs 2 sticks approx. 30cm long and roughly the thickness of a broom handle. The game is played in pairs and all the sticks need to be of a similar weight and type.

These actions can be accompanied by any song which has three beats to a bar (waltz time) ... 1 2 3, 1 2 3, etc as this is the rhythm needed. The song in this leaflet is a traditional Maori song used for stick games...

E aue, ka mate au,
E hīne, hokí maí ra.
Alas I shall die, My dear, return to me.

E papa wiari
taku nei mahi,
Taku nei mahi,
hei tuku roimata.

O papa waiari idly i sit,
Shedding only tears
There are other verses / songs but this
is enough to get you started!

Leaders need to know the order of the actions so you can follow if you get lost!!

Players begin by kneeling facing their partner. Sticks on the floor at their sides.

Each ACTION is repeated until the end of the tune.
When learning keep returning to BASIC ACTION



To start - TAP, TAP, TOGETHER
This is the most BASIC ACTION and it is
a good idea to always go back to this
ACTION for the chorus. (E aue ka mate
au) The action is 2 Taps at the side of the
body, 1 Tap together at the front.

INDIVIDUAL ACTIONS



TAP, TAP, FLIP.
(right side)
Two taps on the floor
and then flip the sticks
(left side)
Two taps on the floor
and then flip the sticks.

NOTE...Hold sticks at the end for these two actions




TAP, TAP, FLIP.
Same as above but one stick on each side of body, two taps on the floor and then flip.



TAP, TAP, CHANGE.
Tap sticks at either side of body and then throw sticks **VERTICALLY** from one hand to the other at the same time.



TAP, TAP, CHANGE.

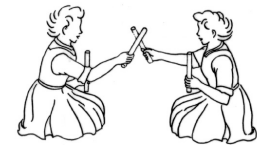


Tap sticks at either side of body and then throw sticks HORIZONTALLY from one hand to the other at the same time.

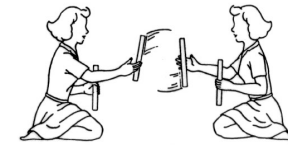
YOU CAN ALSO MAKE UP YOUR OWN ACTIONS AND ROUTINES.

YOU CAN SET YOUR OWN ORDER FOR THE ACTIONS.

JOINT ACTIONS



TAP, TOGETHER, TAP:
Tap the floor at either side of body, tap your own sticks together in front of you, then tap **RIGHT** sticks with partner. Repeat **ACTION** with **LEFT** sticks



TAP, TOGETHER, THROW.
Tap the floor, tap your own sticks together in front of you then throw **RIGHT** stick to partner. Repeat **ACTION** with **LEFT** stick.



TAP, TOGETHER, THROW.
Tap the floor, tap your own sticks together in front of you then throw BOTH sticks to partner!! One girl should throw sticks together inside, whilst the other should throw her sticks apart.

✿ Making Maori Sticks

Traditionally... Maori Sticks are made of wood and either carved or painted with colourful designs. Wooden sticks can be made of broom handles or dowel rods or even bamboo. Get ideas for Maori designs from library books.

However... when you are learning wooden sticks can be very noisy (because you keep dropping them!!) and they hurt if you get accidentally hit by one!!

Alternative options...

NEWSPAPER

Tightly roll 6 - 8 sheets of tabloid size newspaper, secure with tape at each end and the centre. To make them last longer you can wrap the whole stick with masking tape and decorate with coloured tape, paint, felt tip pens etc.

PLASTIC PIPE

Some D.I.Y and hardware shops sell plastic pipe for plumbing / electrical conduit that has a small enough diameter. This makes really good sticks because it is lightweight, easy to cut and lasts a long time. Don't use metal pipes unless you are trying to kill your partner!

ELECTRICAL TAPE DECORATION

Coloured electrical insulation tape is good for decorating sticks quickly and easily. Each person or couple need their own design so they can recognize their sticks.

The version of the music and the drawings used in this leaflet are from photocopied pages of an unknown book. They were given to me when I was a Guide. Instructions / music etc can also be found in the GG of Canada 'jubilee Song Book' and 'Help Your Patrol to Make Music' and can also be easily found in songbooks pages on the internet. Vickie Smith 2005

Maori Stick Game Instructions

from New Zealand



The Maori stick game works well as a parol or company activity. The Guides can make and decorate their own sticks and the difficulty of the actions can be varied according to the girls' abilities.

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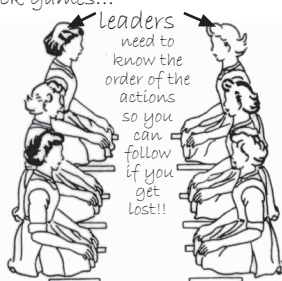
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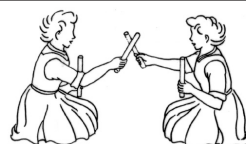
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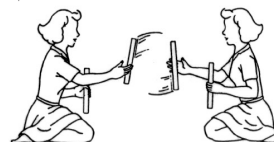
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