

GLASS CONTAINERS COME IN ALL SHAPES AND SIZES.

Glass bottles and jars have many reasons to be shaped differently.

The neat thing is, they can be molded in almost any way you want. When glass makers melt all of the soda ash, sand, limestone and cullet together in a big furnace, it becomes really hot and gooey. When the gooey "gob" of glass drops from the furnace down into a mold, it will cool down and harden. So, the glass will look like whatever shape that mold is!

Some food or drink companies want their glass containers to be a certain size to match a certain measurement. Or, maybe they want them to have ridges so they're easier to grip with your hands. Some are even shaped like the food they contain.

There are special designers that create the glass container molds using computers. They know how to design shapes that are very strong and safe. They also know that glass is the only type of packaging material that the United States Food and Drug Administration says is safe for protecting food and drinks. Pretty cool, huh?

Learn more about this by watching the "Becoming a Glass Super Agent" animation at www.CaptainCullet.com.

Glass container designer



WHAT SHAPE WOULD YOU MAKE?

You can be a glass container designer, too! Here's something you can try: Imagine a special jar or bottle with a cool design, then draw it on a separate piece of paper. It can be big, small, skinny or wide. Maybe it's a special color or shape. Some glass containers are shaped like different objects and some have words molded into the glass. Have fun and be creative!



Customize These Glass Containers

What creative words or shapes can you add?



Learn more and have fun at:

www.captaincullet.com

Enjoy our animated adventures, online games and other fun stuff. You'll learn about why recycling glass containers is very important. Ask an adult if it's okay first!





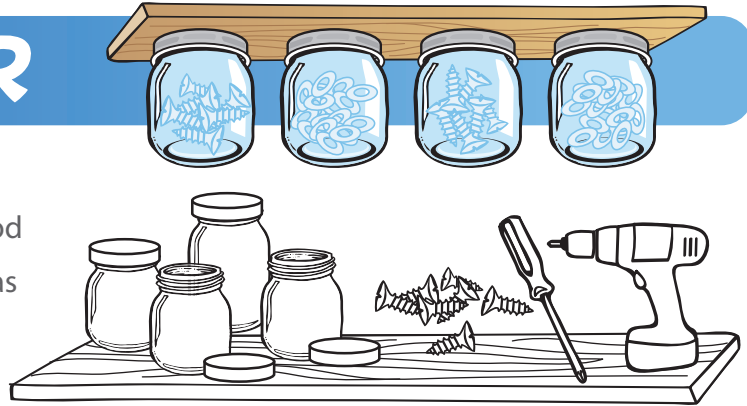
Craft Time with the Little Gob o' Glass!

After you recycle glass containers, they are crushed into cullet and melted to make new glass bottles and jars. What's cool about that? The containers don't end up in landfills! Finding ways to reuse your glass bottles and jars is also a good idea, as long as they don't end up in the trash. Here's a fun thing to do with used jars:

A JAR ORGANIZER

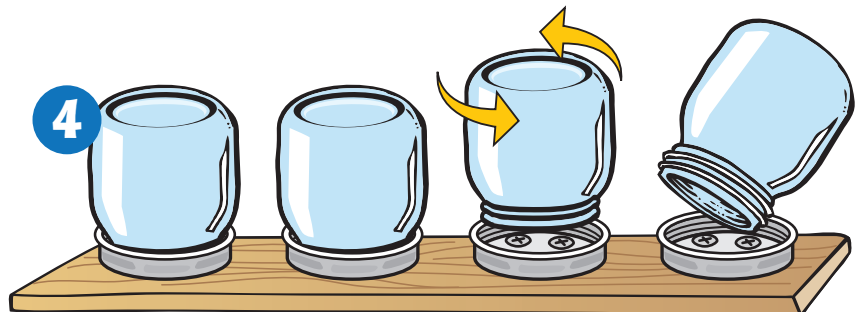
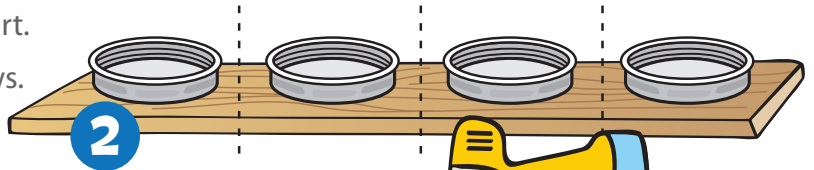
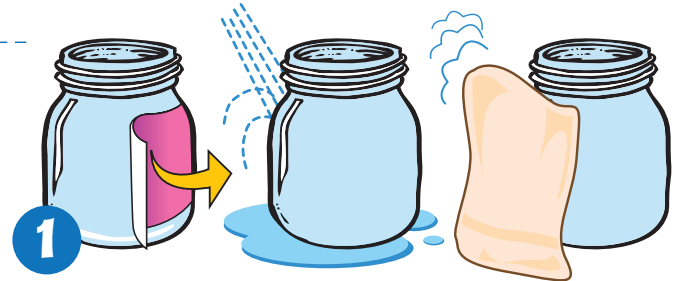
What you'll need:

- Small Jars: Find a few (or more) empty glass baby food jars. If you can't, maybe a friend or family member has some. You can also use small jars, like a smaller salsa jar or short jelly jars. *Note: You'll need the lids too!*
- Several small wood screws and a screwdriver (a powered screwdriver or drill may be easier).
- A wooden shelf or a flat piece of wood that can be fastened to the bottom of a cabinet.



How to make the jar organizer:

1. Peel off the jar labels. Wash and dry the jars.
2. Use a board that's about five inches wide, about two feet long and less than an inch thick. Place the lids on the board a couple inches apart.
3. Next, find an adult to help screw in the screws. Put at least two screws in each lid. Make sure they're shorter than the thickness of the wood.
4. Now, you can screw in the jars. At this point, you can give it as a gift! Just tell the recipient to screw in the board to the underside of a shelf or to the underside of a cabinet. They can put screws, nuts, bolts, washers, nails or whatever they'd like to keep organized.



Thoughts: Be sure there's a good fit when you screw the jars into the lids. If you're installing the jar organizer under a cabinet, consider painting the wood to match. Also, Father's Day is in June! This would be a nice gift for a special dad.

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