

Kon Tiki Builders' Guide

A bit of planning and foresight will get your patrol well on the way to constructing a raft for Kon Tiki. Made of mostly found (recyclable materials) and some purchased supplies, you can create a seaworthy raft you can be proud of!

Flotation Materials

There are several types of rafts but all employ the basic of buoyancy found in empty plastic containers - 1-gallon milk jugs; 30-gallon plastic barrels (55-gallon barrels work fine, too); 5-gallon buckets (used for sheetrock joint compound, bulk food products, etc.); 2-liter soda bottles; and styrofoam sheets or blocks.

You will need to begin planning your raft well in advance of its launching - acquiring materials can be time consuming! You will need over 100 milk jugs and probably twice that many 2-liter soda bottles (you can get the deposits back when you de-commission your raft for recycling). You may need 6 - 8 30-gallon barrels. A couple dozen 5-gallon buckets should make a raft suitable for 2 Scouts. So, select your building material and begin collecting your desired building blocks.

Here some photos (and links) to various types of rafts. Be creative! Had fun! And fine sailing!



Milk Jug Raft - <http://www.instructables.com/id/Build-a-Milk-Jug-Raft/>

Be sure to read the Comments for good ideas!

YouTube Milk Jug Raft Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?NR=1&v=KJ82yrLDe7o&feature=endscreen>

The annual Connecticut River Race has a ton of information of raft construction - check out this site: <http://www.ctriverafrace.org/smartphone/2016raftbuildinginfo/2016raftbuildinginfo.html> for the following rafts:

Styro-Raft:



Barrel Raft



Soda Bottle Raft



Storage Bin Raft - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KJQZ6i8Q7jo>

a. Description & Parts List:

<http://catsandcarp.com/2014/08/how-to-build-the-ultimate-fishing-raft/>



Sono-Tube Raft - Very creative! Ends must be sealed and additional waterproofing applied be way cool!



Please also see these other Kon Tiki resources

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/11b3mCIK-ZGvSO-vBcruzDfDQ7t3aWdRq7ZolQ-l4TPw/e/dit?usp=sharing>