# How to Replace Your Didgeridoo's Beeswax Mouthpiece

Step by step with Sanshi, with stills from our video. Use it when the wax on your didgeridoo gets dirty or falls off.

## What you need

- Your didgeridoo, with the old wax taken off
- A strip of beeswax from a didgeridoo replacement mouthpiece kit
- A jar of cold water (room temperature is fine)
- Boiling water (the video uses a kettle)
- A piece of cardboard to roll the wax on

Watch the video (8:41)



### 1. Mix boiling and cold water

Fill a jar with about half cold water and half boiling water. It should be hotter than bath water, but you can still touch it. Don't use straight boiling water: the beeswax will melt away.



### 2. Soften the beeswax

Put the beeswax in the jar and wait a few minutes until it gets soft. The wax changes colour as it warms up.



### 3. Check that it is soft

Take a strip out and see if it is soft enough. Sometimes a strip breaks. Don't worry, you can put it back together.



### 4. Roll it on cardboard

Roll the soft wax on a piece of cardboard to round off the corners. Use cardboard because the wax might leave marks on your table.



### 5. Press the wax onto the rim

Lay the wax around the top of the didgeridoo and pinch it into shape with your fingers. You don't need glue: the wax is sticky enough to stick by itself.



### 6. Seal the inside with your thumb

With your index finger on top, push the wax against the inside of the didgeridoo with your thumb. This closes the gap between the didgeridoo and the wax, so no air leaks when you play.



### 7. Work all the way around

Keep pinching until the wax has gone all the way around. You can turn the didgeridoo and work the other way, thumb outside and index finger inside.



### 8. Tear off the excess wax

Once the wax has made a full circle, tear off the excess.



### 9. Make it neat and set the size

While the wax is soft, make it neat. Aim for an opening about 30mm across. Sanshi likes 32mm and some players go a little smaller, so it is up to you.



### 10. Keep the top flat

Shape the wax so the top is nice and flat, with a fairly sharp edge towards your mouth. If you push the wax in over the opening, your lips touch it when you play and it stops the sound.



### 11. Test the sound

Play the didgeridoo. To make the opening bigger, push the wax gently towards the outside while it is soft. Take your time and find your favourite shape and size.



## If it goes wrong

**Wax too soft?** Wait until it cools down a little. It is easier to work with then.

**Wax too hard?** In colder places the wax can get really hard. Take it off, put it back in the hot water until it is soft, then work it again.

**A gap in the wax?** Add another piece and keep pinching the join, on top and inside with your thumb, while the wax is soft.

**Not happy with it?** Take the wax off and do it again.

## When to change the wax

Change it when the wax looks too dirty to play. Until then, pick the dust off with a fingernail or clean it with an alcohol swab. It could be a couple of months or half a year, depending on how often you play and where you keep your didgeridoo.

## More help

Watch every step in the video: Didgeridoo Beeswax Mouthpiece Replacement - A How To Guide (8:41).

Beeswax for a new mouthpiece: the Didgeridoo Replacement Beeswax Mouthpiece Kit and the Didgeridoo Replacement BLACK Beeswax Mouthpiece Kit (Multi-Pack).

Have a question? Contact us at didgeridoobreath.com/contact-us.