

## Halloween Apothecary Jars

As part of our continuing series on Afternoon Craft Corner, learn how to create Halloween Apothecary Jars. This idea has been adapted, with permission, from a wonderfully creative website called [MagiaMia](#).



### Supplies Needed for Basic Apothecary Jar

- Clean empty glass, plastic or metal containers with lids on, labels removed.
- Fine grit sandpaper
- Glue gun (low-temp is better)
- Acrylic Paint – black (can also use chalkboard paint), brown, rust, light yellow-orange
- Sponge paint brush, Q-tips, paper towel
- Matte acrylic spray (optional)

### Optional Supplies

- Cork
- Wooden knobs
- Twine
- Raffia
- Tree bark
- Small Halloween objects such as skulls, bats, bones, spiders, etc.

### Instructions

1. Start with an empty container. If plastic or metal, lightly sand the outside to help paint adhere and give it texture. If desired, you can remove the threaded neck from any plastic container to create a more classic apothecary shape. You can also remove the plastic lid from metal spice tins. See **Options** for instructions on how to make stoppers for these modified containers.
2. Draw your design and/or words either directly on the bottle or on paper first that you insert inside the bottle. Follow your drawing with the glue gun. If you want, add a wooden knob or bead to the top of the cap, attaching it with the glue gun.
3. Coat the entire outside of the bottle (except for the bottom) with black paint (including the lid or cap). Be sure to get in all the nooks and crannies of the design. Let dry.
4. Repeat with brown paint. Let dry.
5. Repeat with rust paint. Let dry.
6. The final paint color, pale orange yellow, should be watered down a bit and applied very lightly. Concentrate your paint on the raised design to highlight the words and/or pictures.
7. Once your paint is dry, you can decorate the container with twine or raffia wound around the top of the bottle. See **Options** for other ideas.
8. Optionally, once the container is complete, spray it with matte acrylic clear coat to seal it.
9. Because these bottles are lightweight, it's a good idea to fill them with sand, uncooked beans, marbles, etc. to keep them stable.

### Options

1. In place of the original jar lids, create stoppers from cork and/or wood bark. Cut 3 or 4 pieces from ¼" cork tile that are progressively larger than the opening of the bottle. Glue the pieces together and let dry. Lightly sand the cork so it fits in the jar or tin opening. If desired, use paint or magic marker on the cork to make it look old and weathered. You can also attach wood bark to the top of the cork. Another idea: attach small plastic skulls or bat figures to the top of the lid.