

## A didgeridoo player talks about his hobby...

**"** Didgeridoos come in, erm, loads of different types of wood....like teak... but nowadays they pretty much always use bamboo because, well, because it's the cheapest and doesn't require much effort to, how do you say? Hollow it out. The original didgies actually come from, from eucalyptus trees and every autumn the aborigines will go round tapping on the side of eucalyptus trees to see which have been hollowed out by termites, coz termites nest inside them and hollow them out. Each didgeridoo.... each didgeridoo has its own, erm, you know – its own note. Some are, like, an A sharp to, erm, a lower octave B. I wanted to play the didgeridoo because it didn't require notes...I mean... you know, because I didn't need to be able to read music to play it. I think it's a really unusual instrument and I'm really into the Australian culture around it.... its original name was called the udaki. Didgies are all different lengths... some are well long, the longest you can get is seven foot three. The term 'didgeridoo' is actually, erm, from early Western explorers who decided that the didgeridoo actually makes a sound something like 'didgeridoo' which you can hear when you listen to it. The aboriginal culture around it is so cool... the entire thing about – you know... the Dreamtime spirits - didgeridoos are used to channel these spirits, the Dreamtime spirits. The didgeridoo is actually one the oldest instruments. It dates back over, oh, something like...a hundred thousand years, and they actually have records of people playing it. You can't play a didgeridoo over seven foot three because, because you can't make the vibrations to fill it... Dreamtime is when aborigines speak with the spirits. Erm, originally the didgeridoo dates back to aboriginal Australia. The aboriginals had lots of different names for it... it sort of changed from tribe to tribe."

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