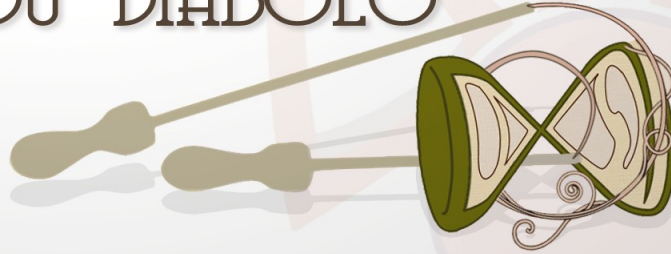


# LE PETIT MUSÉE DU DIABOLO



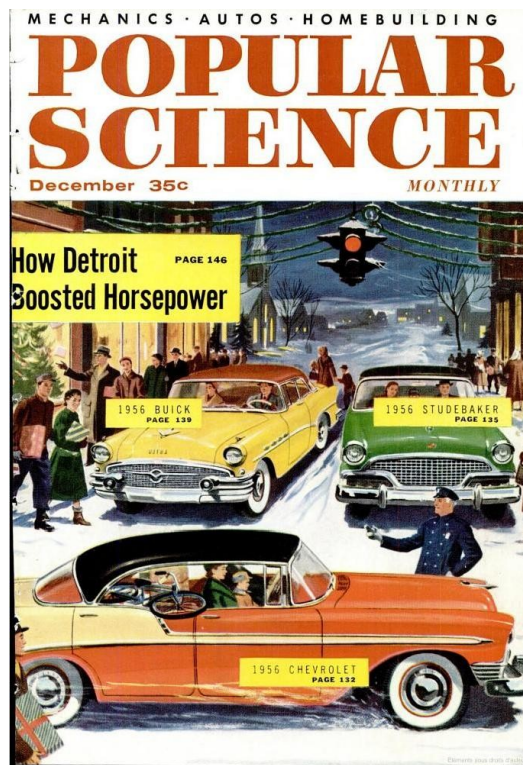
[www.museediabolo.fr](http://www.museediabolo.fr)

**A diabolo is fun to make, 1955.**



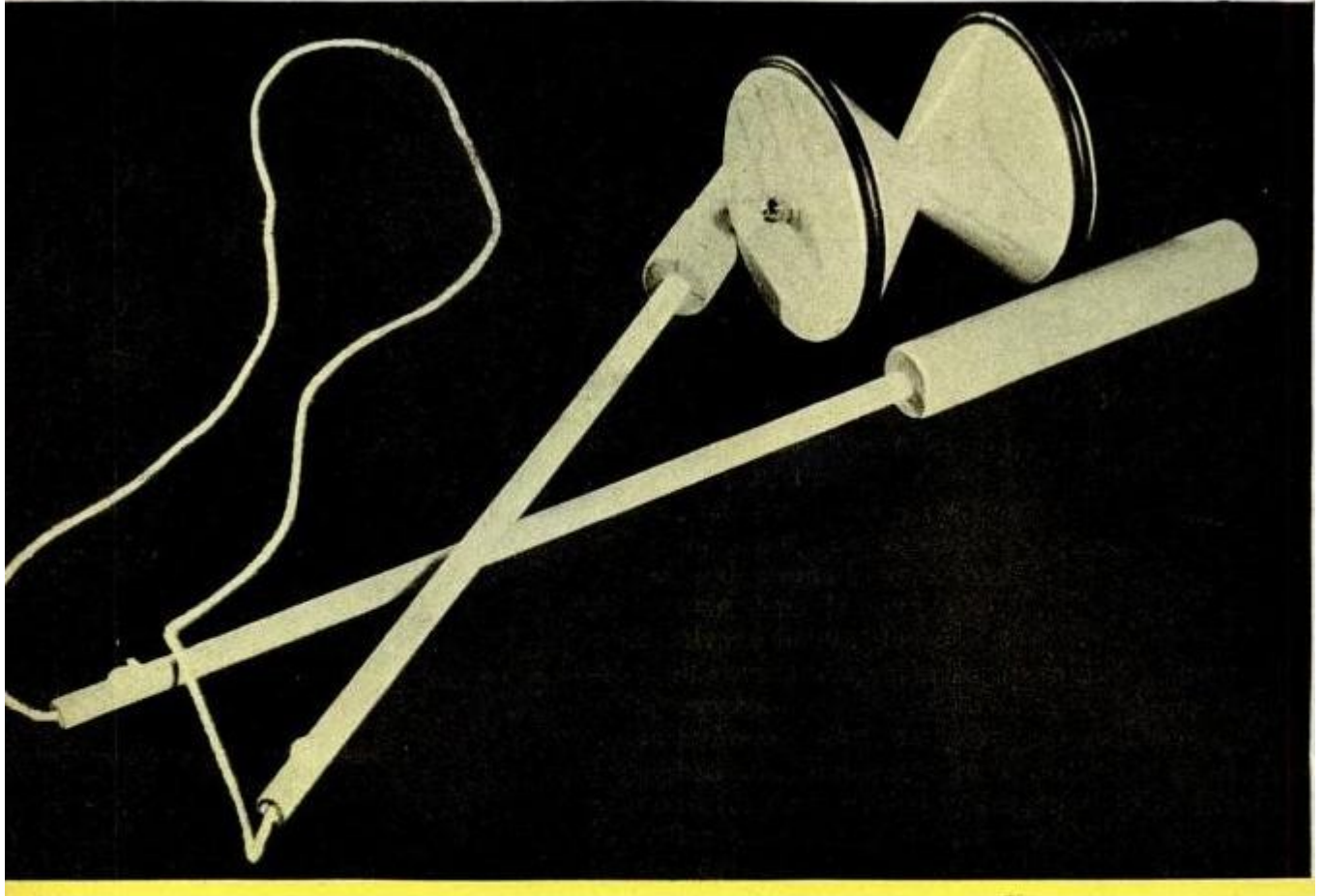
*Extract to Popular Mechanics:*

- Description and fabrication
- Method and tricks



Source : <http://books.google.fr>

# A Diabolo Is Fun to Make



**TO SPIN THE TOP,** you raise and lower the sticks alternately, with a quick backward shift of the string at the end of each rotating impulse.

When the speed is great enough to stabilize the top in flight, just whip the sticks apart to toss it into the air. As the spool comes down you catch it on a sloping string and let it roll down into slack bunched near one end.

Two diabolo twirlers can volley the spool between them; four can play a two-team game, racking points for longest volleys without a miss.

210 POPULAR SCIENCE





# and Fly

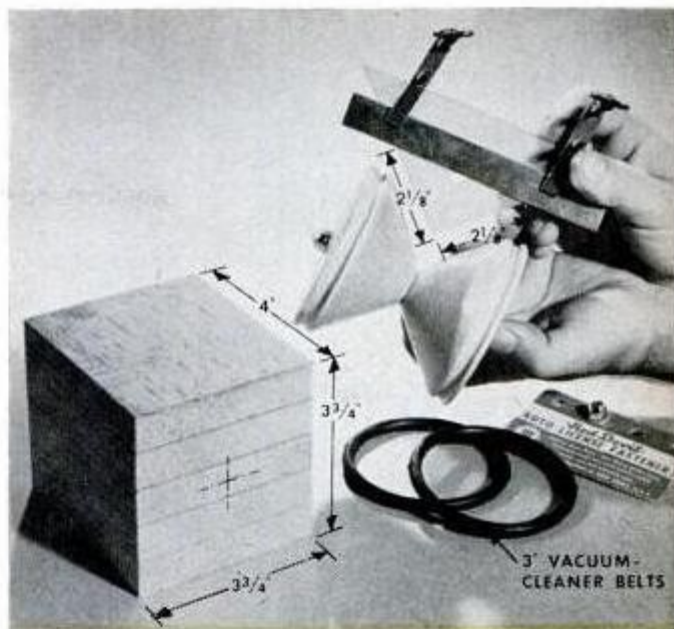
HERE is an unusual Christmas present for any youngster—a wasp-waisted diabolo top and the sticks and cord you need to spin and cast it high, wide and handsome through the air.

A game with a history, diabolo was popular with the ancient Chinese and with French sports of Napoleon's day before American youngsters turned it into a backyard fad from 1910 to 1915.

Considerably more skill is needed to twirl a diabolo top than the Yo-yo it resembles. The diabolo flies free and is caught before it falls to the ground.

The top shown here was patterned after an old-timer I found in an attic trunk. The 1956 model was made more stable by adding a balance-adjusting core, and easier on itself and indoor surroundings by placing rubber rings on the rims. These are 3"-diameter vacuum cleaner belts bought at a cleaner service shop. Acorn nuts, from a box of auto-license fasteners, cap the threaded core. To stabilize the top, you shift the threaded rod a bit to one side or the other with the nuts.

Rough out the spool with a skew chisel, finish with a V-point chisel. Face the ends close to the nuts on the mandrel. Chisel off the remainder. Glue  $\frac{3}{8}$ " dowels into 1" dowel handles to make the sticks. Tie a 42" length of chalk line or heavy fishline to each pair. Make at least two pairs.—Stewart Rouse, Lewisville, Ind.



**THE DIABOLO BLANK** is  $\frac{3}{4}$ " wood glued up as above. Drill a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " hole through the center and insert a threaded rod. Lock the rod in place with nuts and washers and, using the rod as a mandrel, set the blank between lathe centers. Check the turning with a template made by clamping a steel rule across the  $90^\circ$  angle of a draftsman's triangle. After turning  $\frac{1}{4}$ " end grooves for the vacuum cleaner belts, remove the nuts, sand off the ends of the spool and apply two coats of shellac. Shorten the rod and thread on balance-adjusting acorn nuts.

