

# prehistoric Bullroarer

## Introduction:

The bullroarer is one of the oldest instruments. Examples have been found from more than 20,000 years ago. It is an oval, thin and rigid object, the Palaeolithic bullroarers that have been found were made of mammoth bone or tusk, but they can also be made of wood (but it would not have been preserved). In some cases, they were decorated with engravings and coloured pigments.

Throughout history they have often been used as musical instruments, toys, for religious rituals (in ancient times there was a belief that the sound of the bullroarer helped crops grow), it has also been used to scare away wild beasts, such as wolves. Why do you think prehistoric peoples used their shepherds' horn?

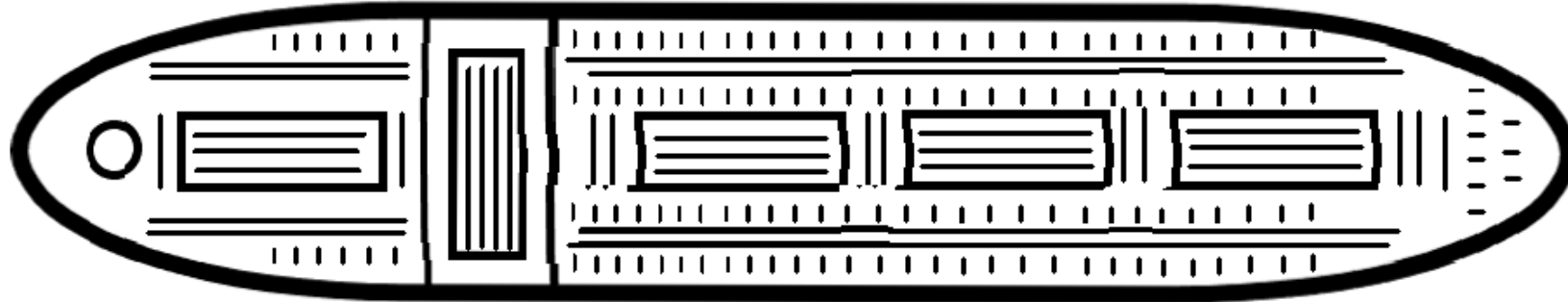
## Instructions:

In this dossier you will find the instructions to create your own bullroarer. You'll also find decorated and undecorated templates for your bullroarer (choose one option).

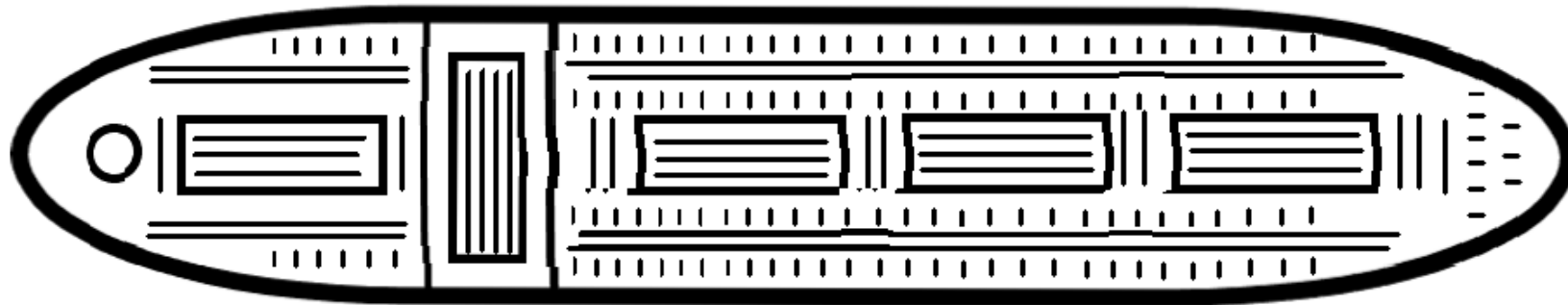
## You will need:

- ☐ Cardboard or material that is a bit stiff (the stiffer the better, but not too thick)
- ☐ Paper
- ☐ Scissors and glue
- ☐ Printer (optional)
- ☐ Materials to decorate your bullroarer: colored pencils, crayons, paints, markers...
- ☐ Rope: Approximately 100cm in length.

Cut out: (Undecorated template on the next page)



Template with decoration inspired by the shepherds' horn found in the Cave of La Roche (Dordogne)



Template with decoration inspired by the shepherds' horn found in the Cave of La Roche (Dordogne)

**Cut out:**



Template without decoration. Create your own design! (you will find inspiration in the next page).

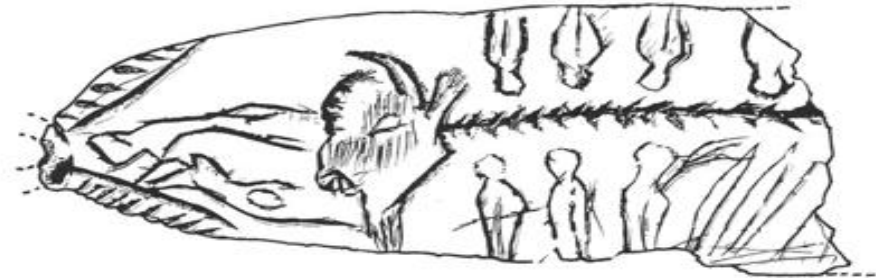


Template without decoration. Create your own design! (you will find inspiration in the next page).

Decorate or paint your shepherds' horn :



Symbols, La Roche Cave (France)



Bison surrounded by figures, Raymondén Cave (France)



Deer with fish, Aizkoltxo Cave (Basque Country)



Two deer, El Pendo Cave (Cantabria)



Marching group, Gourdan-Polignan Cave (France)



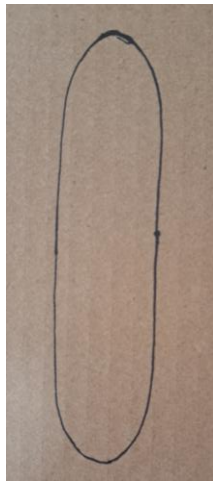
Wolverine, Les Eyzies Cave (France)

Get inspired by these examples from the Paleolithic!

## Instructions:



1. Place your template on a piece of cardboard.



2. Outline with a pencil or marker.



3. Cut out the shape.



4. Glue your bra design on each side.



5. Make a hole in one of the ends.



6. Tie the rope through the hole.



## Create music with your bullroarer!

Grab the rope on the opposite side to your bullroarer, spin it non-stop. After a couple of turns, you will start to hear the hum of your bullroarer. You can tie the string to one or two fingers to make it easier for you.

