

Easter Tips and Ideas

This tip sheet was produced by Cheapskates Journal—
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Make Your Own Easter Eggs

Instead of spending a lot of money on chocolate and pre-packaged lollies etc, make homemade cookies (use rabbit shaped cookie cutters) and other sweets to be enjoyed as part of your celebration. You can buy chocolate moulds for around \$2 each and they can be re-used year after year. Then buy chocolate when it's on sale and make your own Easter eggs. You can fill them with Smarties etc if you like. To join the two halves just run some melted chocolate around the edges and hold them together for a few minutes. If you have a lot to do, you can make a few each night, they don't take long. -
Contributed by Linda, Nunawading.



Confetti Eggs

These eggs are great fun and really cheap and easy to make. Carefully blow the eggs (you can use the eggs for scrambled eggs, quiche, omelettes etc so they won't be wasted) and rinse them. Let them dry. Then give them to the kids and let them paint them. Now, carefully, with a sharp knife, cut a tiny hole in the end. Fill the cavity with confetti. Cover the hole with a small piece of sticky tape. Now they are ready to use - hide them in the garden and let the kids find them and break them open! Watch the confetti fly!

Note: Confetti can be bought at dollar shops, and one box will make around 2 dozen eggs. Or you can save your paper punchings for this craft too. Ask at school, or work, if you don't punch holes yourself.

Easter Egg Alternatives

My husband and I are on a strict budget, but we still like to give a little something to his nieces and nephews at Easter time. They range in age from 7 through to 19 and there are 9 in total. I have been scouring the bargain papers as they arrive, looking for ideas. We have decided to give them all their favourite chocolate bar (some like Twix, some like Time Outs etc) tied with a yellow bow. I can usually buy them for around \$1 each from The

Warehouse, so for under \$20 they will all have something from us at Easter time and it will be something that we know they like. - *Contributed by Tamara*

Easter Baskets for Goodies

This year I've made a basket for each of my 3 children from the bottom of an empty 3 litre milk bottle. Inside they're getting a homemade candy egg, homemade biscuits in an egg shape with chocolate icing and sprinkles on them and some bits and pieces of other lollies I have left over from their birthday parties in January. Since everything I needed I already had on hand Easter hasn't cost me anything as such so far. - *Contributed by Jodie,*

Chocolate Making Day

Every Good Friday I gather my daughter's friends and mine too and have a chocolate making day. You can buy the chocolate moulds very cheaply on ebay or even at your confectionery store or Spotlight for under \$3.50! Last week I decided to be an early bird and at a store in Bendigo I was fortunate to come across some older stock (the plastic had slightly yellowed as moulds don't have a huge life expectancy) for only 50 cents each!!!!!! That was an amazing find. ALSO if you like filled chockies and eggs do not waste money buying the expensive filling and fondants. Hazlenut spread (Like Nutella) is delicious filling, if you love strawberry fill just use jam and icing sugar and for creamier fillings use icing sugar and any flavoured topping mixed well! The flavour possibilities are endless. Just use your imagination and trial and error will do the trick. I just think that an Easter egg making session with the kids all together is a messy but memorable experience! If you want to get really crafty buy white chocolate buddies, and colour them with powdered food coloring (liquid colors destroy chocolate) and watch your kids artistic ability fly!!!!!! HAPPY EASTER TO ALL! - *Contributed by Paula*

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