



How to Build Your Own Wind Meter

I made this wind meter from four two-liter soda bottles, a bicycle speedometer, and some scraps of wood. First cut the top cones off the bottles, leaving a plastic tab hanging down. Arrange the tops in a circle and screw each tab into the lid next to it. Fasten a wooden crosspiece and tie its ends to the necks of the bottles. Drill a hole in the center of the crosspiece and nail it to the top of a stick so it is free to rotate. Attach the magnet to the crosspiece and the bicycle computer to the stick. Hold the contraption in the wind and watch it spin! To calibrate, change the rim size on the speedometer. I calibrated by holding the meter out of a moving car and adjusting until its speedometer matched the car's. —Reuben Margolin