A Tubular Glockenspiel

The tubular glockenspiel has a brilliant ringing tone. It is made from electrical conduit (pipe). The one we'll make uses 1/2-inch diameter conduit. You can buy a 10-foot piece of conduit in a hardware store for a couple of dollars. You can make glockenspiels from other sizes of conduit or metal pipe, too. But you will have to tune them by ear.

With a hacksaw cut your tube to these exact lengths: 11", 10 1/4", 9 3/4", 9 1/2", 8 7/8", 8 1/2", 7 7/8", and 7 5/8".

Now you have a set of tubes already tuned to a major scale. Set the tubes on two strips of foam rubber or felt. Place the strips under the nodes to allow the tubes to vibrate freely. You can make a good beater by wrapping the end of a scrap of your conduit with three or four layers of tape. Make additional tubes if you like. Remember the shorter the tube the higher the pitch will be.