

How to Make a Secchi Disk Turbidity Tube Manual

1. Purchase a fluorescent tube light cover from a hardware store. This is usually about an 8-foot long clear plastic tube with end caps. Make sure you have the end caps.
2. Cut a disk from a plastic container lid that fits inside the end cap.
3. Divide the disk into quarters. Fill in alternating quadrants with a black permanent marker as shown in the diagram.
4. Glue the disk in the bottom of the tube, painted side facing up (toward the open end of the tube). Use Gorilla® glue or any flexible water-tight glue. Be generous with the glue to ensure a good seal.
5. Use a marker and meter stick to make a scale on the side of the tube, beginning at the top of the painted disk with 0 cm.
6. Calibrate the water depth with a turbidity meter if possible, or record depths for comparisons. Lower depth means higher turbidity.

