

Visualizing Hydrostatic Pressure - Setup

Two transparent plastic containers of different shapes and sizes are required for this demonstration. An example of two suitable containers, an empty soft drink bottle and an empty laundry detergent bottle, is shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1 - Two Suitable Containers for this Demonstration

To begin the setup of this demonstration, the cap of each container will be removed. Both containers will then be filled with water up to the same height. Once both containers have the same water levels, thumb tacks will be inserted into each of them along several horizontal lines of different vertical distances from the surface of the water, as shown in Figure 2.

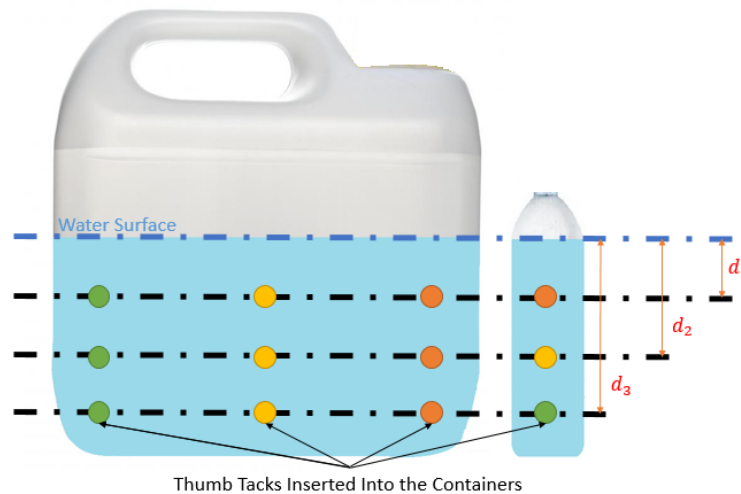


Figure 2

The water inside both containers can be coloured with food-colouring to make the subsequent demonstration easier to visualize for students.