

# CELEBRATING A SAFE AND ECO FRIENDLY GANESHA FESTIVAL

The Ganesha Festival is celebrated across India and is particularly popular in Maharashtra. This year, due to the COVID-19, pandemic, restrictions have been imposed on mass gatherings, making it necessary for cautious celebrations to ensure they are safe and eco-friendly.



## FUN, SAFE & ECO-FRIENDLY WAYS TO CELEBRATE THE GANESHA FESTIVAL THIS YEAR



### IDOL SELECTION

Opt for eco-friendly idols, not taller than 2 feet made of *shadu matti*, clay, papier mache wood, etc. Metal or marble Ganesh idols are an excellent option as they are reusable. To order eco-friendly Ganesha idols you can visit [these sites](#).



### MAKE YOUR OWN IDOLS

Are you too late to book your eco-friendly Ganesha? Why not make your own - a satisfying activity to create your own Ganapati idol. To know where you can purchase the material needed, [click here](#).



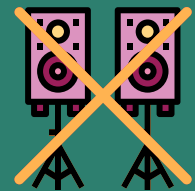
### MINIMAL DECORATIONS

Minimal and eco-friendly decoration like paper, cardboard, leaves, potted plants, flowers, cloth, can be used; all of which can be recycled.



### SAFER CELEBRATION

Follow all safety protocols including the usage of masks, shields & hand sanitizers. Follow social distancing norms and avoid crowds. Opt for virtual *aartis* for the extended family



### SAVE ELECTRICITY

Avoid playing loud music or bursting firecrackers. Replace traditional bulbs with CFLs. Wrap coloured paper around bulbs rather than buying new ones.



### USE NIRMALYA TO MAKE YOUR OWN MANURE.

Used Flowers, garlands and organic matter (*Nirmalya*) can be composted. Dried flowers can also be used as dyeing agents.

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**REMEMBER: THE 5R'S:  
REFUSE, REDUCE, REUSE, REPURPOSE, RECYCLE.**



**REFUSE  
REDUCE  
REUSE  
REPURPOSE  
RECYCLE**

Avoid using one-time use plastic, thermocol plates, decoration, etc. You can always refuse to use them or opt to reduce its usage. Try reusable items like using *dupattas* and *saris* for decoration. Repurpose and upcycle materials you no longer use, like glass bottles, old CDs, etc. Recycle items made from metal, wood, plastics, paper, cardboard and electronic-waste.

## IMMERSING YOUR IDOLS



**BUCKET  
IMMERSION**



**IMMERSION  
IN ARTIFICIAL  
PONDS**

[For list of artificial immersion ponds, click here](#)



**CONVERT TREE GANESHA INTO A  
POTTED PLANT**

**UNITED WAY MUMBAI**



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