HOW TO MAKE A CO2 KNOCK-OUT POT FOR INSECTS

1. Purchase a CO2 pump such as the ones found here.



2. Get hold of some discarded inner tubes with a presta valve



3. Get a small transparent plastic pot



4. Cut the inner tube to size, make a hole and insert the inner tube valve through the pot





5. Use hot glue to secure inner tube valve to side of pot and then it's ready to use!







NOTES ON USE:

Capture the insect in a net or otherwise, then transfer to pot and release the CO2. It should knock out the subject for about 30-60 seconds depending on how much CO2 is given.

CO2 should be released very slowly so as not to damage the insect. Shortly after the insect stops moving, is a good time to turn off the valve.

Some insects seem more fragile than others.
Use of CO2 seems to require more care with diptera than hymenoptera.
Repetitive uses of CO2 should be particularly avoided on a single subject.

Size is not necessarily a clear factor in impact.

E.g. knocking out a braconid wasp I found that a fairy wasp was still mobile in the knock-out pot whilst the braconid remained immobile.