



# DIY Pet Toy Instructions for Cats and Dogs

# T-Shirt Ball Dog Toy



Dogs will be chasing and chewing on this toy all day, it also makes a great toy to play fetch with!

## YOU WILL NEED...

- An old T-shirt
- A tennis ball
- Scissors
- Tape measure (optional)

## PROCEDURE

Step 1 – Gather the supplies and cut the fabric into two strips, about six (6) inches wide and fourteen (14) inches long.

Step 2 – Lay the fabric in the shape of an “X” on a flat surface and place the tennis ball in the middle.

Step 3 – Fold the fabric over the ball several times and tie the fabric securely around the ball. Make sure to leave enough fabric to make a long tail.

Step 4 – Cut the tail of each fabric tails into at least three (3) strips, roughly two (2) inches each. Be careful not to cut the fabric off of the toy!

Step 5 – Braid the ends as tight as possible and make sure there are no gaps between the braids. Tie knots at the end of the braid with excess fabric to secure the braids. The tighter everything is tied the more durable the toy will be.

Step 6 – The dog toy is complete!

# Braided Shirt Dog Toy



Teething puppies and dogs that enjoy playing tug-of-war will surely love this toy!

## YOU WILL NEED...

- Two old T-shirts (more shirts means more color!)
- Scissors
- Tape measure (optional)

## PROCEDURE

Step 1 – Gather the supplies and cut three (3) strips of fabric total, each of them should be roughly two (2) inches wide and twenty (20) inches long.

Step 2 – Gather all strips and tie a knot at one end.

Step 3 – Begin braiding the fabric together. Make sure the braiding is VERY tight and that there are no gaps showing between the strips. A tighter braid makes a stronger toy.

Step 4 – Leave some room at the opposite end and tie a SUPER tight knot to ensure the toy will not come undone.

Step 5 – You are all finished making a braided dog toy!

Step 6 – Use the excess fabric to make even more toys!

# Plastic Bottle Sock Pet Toy



Chew toys and squeakers can be expensive. Here is a homemade toy that is sure to keep any dog busy for hours!

## YOU WILL NEED...

- A plastic water bottle
- An old tube sock
- Non-toxic marker (optional)

## PROCEDURE

Step 1 – Gather the supplies and make sure the sock is long enough to fit the water bottle inside.

Step 2 – Take the cap off of the water bottle and place it inside the sock.

Step 3 – Tie the sock EXTRA tight so that the water bottle does not come out! You can either tie the top of the sock in a knot or you can make two cuts downward from the top of the sock creating two strips, use these to tie off the toy.

Step 4 – Optional: Use your wildest imagination and draw a crazy face on the toe end of the sock. Get creative and there is no wrong way to do this step!

Step 5 – The crinkle chew toy is all finished!

# Catnip Filled Sock Toys



Catnip filled sock toys are a great way to use up all of the old or single socks stuffed in the back of your sock drawer.

## YOU WILL NEED...

- A sock
- Yarn (ribbon or string work fine, but this material is optional)
- Loose catnip
- Non-toxic marker (optional)

## PROCEDURE

Step 1 – Find a suitable sock. The ideal sock for this project is a children’s sock or an adult ankle sock. Remember, using a sock with no holes is key to ensure the catnip stays inside the sock.

Step 2 – Place a generous handful of dried catnip into the sock. You can fill in any empty space inside the sock with scrap fabrics like yarn, felt, tissue paper, or pieces of cut up T-shirts.

Step 3 – Close off the open end of the sock with a piece of yarn. There should be a tuft or “mouse tail” left hanging after the end of the sock is securely knotted. If you do not have a piece of string to tie at the top of the sock then you have two options. One option is to tie a knot at the top of the sock. The second option is to make two cuts a few inches downward from the top of the sock creating two strips and use these to tie off the toy.

Step 4 – Optional: Draw a silly face on the toe end of the sock. Use your imagination and get creative – there’s no incorrect way to complete this step. Whatever you think a cat will have the most fun with is what you should draw!

Step 5 – This cat toy is completed!

# Yarn Pompom Cat Toys



Cats will have endless fun knocking this colorful and fluffy toy around!

## YOU WILL NEED...

- Yarn
- Fork
- Scissors

## PROCEDURE

Step 1 – Gather the supplies and cut a piece of yarn about three (3) to four (4) inches long. Place this piece at the base of the fork, between the middle two prongs (see pictures on next page for a visual guide, this one is tricky!)

Step 2 – Wrap the yarn about sixty (60) times around the prongs of the fork, that's the end that you eat with! The more you wrap the yarn around the fork the puffier the pompom will be.

Step 3 – Take the first piece of yarn that you cut and placed at the base of the fork between the two prongs. Tie this piece around the yarn wrapped around the fork prongs. Make sure it is VERY tight, this string will keep the pompom together.

Step 4 – Slide the yarn off the fork and cut the yarn at the sides to create a pompom. Trim if necessary.

Step 5 – Optional: Tie the pompom to a string so a cat can chase after it!

Step 6 – You are all done making a pompom toy!

# Yarn Pompom Cat Toys



# Spider Cat Toy



Cats will definitely enjoy this fun spider toy that can be made from easy to find household items!

## YOU WILL NEED...

- Hair rubber band
- Excess fabric (an old T-shirt works just as well)
- Scissors
- Tape measure (optional)

## PROCEDURE

Step 1 – Gather the supplies and begin cutting the fabric (or T-shirt) into strips that measure roughly  $\frac{1}{2}$  (half) an inch wide and four (4) inches long, they do not have to be exact.

Step 2 – Tie the fabric strips around the hair rubber band, make sure to double knot the fabric!

Step 3 – Keep going until you have covered the whole hair rubber band with fabric.

Step 4 – If necessary, trim some excess fabric.

Step 5 – Optional: Tie the new cat toy to a stick or to something that a cat can play with it by themselves, like a door knob.

Step 6 – The fabric spider cat toy is completed