



Make a plastic bag ball

There are lots of different ways to make a ball. Sometimes Worldbuddies use banana or corn leaves, strips of cloth or plastic bags. Try making this simple ball and recycle plastic bags at the same time!

You will need:

- Some sheets of newspaper
- 20 to 30 clean plastic bags, different sizes and colours
- One coloured plastic bag for the outside of your ball
- String or twine and scissors



1 Scrunch up some sheets of newspaper for the centre of the ball.



2 Place this in the bottom of the smallest plastic bag then twist the bag to make a tight ball.



3 Keep hold of the twist while you carefully turn your plastic bag inside out. Wrap it back around the ball in a second layer. Twist the bag tight again. You might be able to do this a few more times if the plastic bag is quite big.



4 When you only have short ends left, tie these together in a tight double knot. Try not to have a bumpy knot sticking out.



Quick tips

- Start with an old plastic ball as the centre instead of newspaper.
- Use tape or rubber bands to hold your ball together instead of tying it with string.



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5 Place the ball in the bottom of a second plastic bag. Wrap the bag around the ball, twist it tight then turn the bag inside out. Keep on doing this until you need to tie the ends in another knot. Make sure this knot is in a different place to keep the ball round.



6 Keep wrapping more plastic bags this way until you have the size of ball you want. Use a coloured plastic bag for the outside layer. Tie the ends in a tight knot.



7 Take your string or twine and tie it onto the last knot you made. Wind the string tightly around the middle of your ball a few times then back through the knot. Turn the ball so you can wind the string around to make quarters.



8 Turn the ball again so you can wind the string in the middle of each quarter to make eight smaller segments. Cut the string and tie it in a tight knot. Twist the loose ends underneath.

Choose how to finish the outside of your ball:

Easier

Turn the ball on its side and wind your string tightly around the middle a few times. Cut the string and tie it in a tight knot. Twist the loose ends underneath. (See step 8)

Harder

Try weaving the string in and out around the segments. Start at the top where the knot is and go around the ball in a spiral until you reach the bottom. Cut the string and tie it in a tight knot. Twist the loose ends underneath.

Watch a video showing how to make a plastic bag ball.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d0GQZFIO4tM&NR=1>

Thanks to Send A Cow for their great photos:

www.sendacow.org.uk/schools

