

DIY Dog Toys Checklist

By caitlynnlowe

- Supplies Needed**
 - 1 yard (1 meter) fray-resistant fabric** Fleece or denim works best.
 - Fabric scissors** Pinking shears would work, too.
 - Measuring tape**
 - Masking tape**
- Preparing the Materials**
 - Choose the fabric** Consider using fleece, flannel, or heavy t-shirt knits when making toys for small to medium dogs. When making the toy for a larger dog, you may need to choose a more durable fabric like denim.
 - Cut three strips of material** Using fabric scissors or pinking shears, cut three evenly sized strips from your chosen material. Make the strips 3 feet (91 cm) long and 3 inches (7.6 cm) wide for large dogs, 2 feet (61 cm) long and 2.5 inches (6.4 cm) wide
- Making the Toy**
 - Tie the three strips together at one end** Stack the three strips on top of one another, then tie them together into an overhand knot. Position the knot 2 to 4 inches (5.1 to 10.2 cm) away from one end of the stack.
 - Tape the knotted end to a table or other work surface** Use masking tape to secure the knot to a hard surface. Alternatively, ask another person to hold the knotted end for you as you work.
 - Cross the right strip over the middle strip** Separate the stack into its three distinct strips. Cross the right strip over the middle strip and under the left strip.
 - Cross the left strip over the middle strip** Weave the left strip over the middle strip and under the right strip. Doing so completes one full braid.
 - Continue braiding the strips together** Create additional braids down the length of the stack by following the same procedure: cross the right strip over the middle, then weave the left strip over the middle. Create as many braids as needed until only 2 t
 - Knot the opposite end** Regroup all three strips of fabric into a single stack. Tie another overhand knot at the loose end to mirror the first knot.
 - Remove the tape** Peel away the masking tape currently holding the toy down.
 - Trim the ends** Using fabric scissors or pinking shears, trim the loose ends of the dog toy so that they appear even in length.
 - Give it to your dog** This step completes the DIY dog toys checklist. Use the new toy to play tug-of-war with your dog or give it to your dog for use as a chew toy.