

DIY Dog Toys Checklist

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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.