

# CAT SCRATCH CIRCLE

## Materials:

- Cardboard boxes (all sizes, all kinds, at least 5 medium size boxes)
- Masking tape
- Scissors and ruler
- scrap paper, felt, or fabric
- Optional: decorative paper or fabric, markers

## Instructions:

1. Choose a height for the pad, (The example shown is 4”).
2. Measure and cut your cardboard in identical width strips. Cut so that the ridges in the cardboard are going horizontally across the strips.
3. Start rolling the cardboard in your hands and bending at each corrugation. The cardboard will start to curl naturally.
4. Tightly wind one strip into a circle and tape closed. This will be the core.
5. Add a new piece and secure with two pieces of masking tape. Choose which side will be the top and make sure that side is always even. It is less important if the other side is slightly uneven; it will still sit properly and the top will look perfect.
6. Keep adding cardboard! Tape each piece right next to the end of the last piece and keep the coiling tight.
7. Cut your decorative paper or fabric and wrap it around the outside. Tape to close. If you prefer, you can draw fun designs or pictures for our cats to enjoy!
8. Place the finished coil onto the scrap fabric or paper and trace and cut out the circle. Tape or glue to the bottom so that we can sprinkle the scratcher with catnip, and it won't spill out!



# CARDBOARD SCRATCH POST

## Materials:

- 12" x 12" x 1/2" plywood board
- 36" Wooden dowel
- Corrugated cardboard
- 1 1/2" wood screw
- X-Acto knife
- Power drill
- Glue

## Instructions:

1. Mark the center of your board and drill a hole.
2. Drill a hole in the center of the dowel.
3. Drill the screw all the way through the board. Using a screwdriver to hold the screw in place, take the dowel in your other hand and twist it onto the screw. Keep twisting until it's securely on.
4. Prepare the cardboard pieces: using the X-Acto knife, cut multiple cardboard squares measuring 6 x 6 inches. Cut out a hole in the middle of each piece the size of the dowel.
5. Stack the cardboard pieces onto the wooden dowel until you've reached the top. Arrange the pieces as desired to create different designs, gluing as you go to keep the pieces in place. You can cap the dowel instead of gluing pieces. *Note: You can also use a stacked cardboard base if preferred and glue pieces together(see below).*



# TRAFFIC CONE

# CAT SCRATCHER

## Materials:

- Traffic cone
- Rope or sisal cord
- Hot glue gun and glue sticks
- Scissors
- Yarn

## Instructions:

1. Starting at the bottom edge of the square base, apply a thin line of hot glue and press rope into glue. Continue to alternate between glue and rope as you work your way around, following the square shape of the base. As you get to the base of the cone, start working your way from wrapping it in a square shape into a circular shape. Wrap tightly and push down the rope as you go to avoid gaps.
2. Once you get near the top, get your pom-poms and poke the strings down through the hole in the top of the cone. Apply a dab of glue at the top and press the pom-pom strings into it. Apply more glue and wrap your rope over the pom-pom strings, encasing them within the rope. Switch back to full lines of glue near the top of the cone, gluing the rope to itself as you cover the hole in the top. Cut off excess rope.

You can find instructions for the fabric base cone here:

<http://www.sofancyblog.com/2013/10/make-it-traffic-cone-cat-scratching.html>



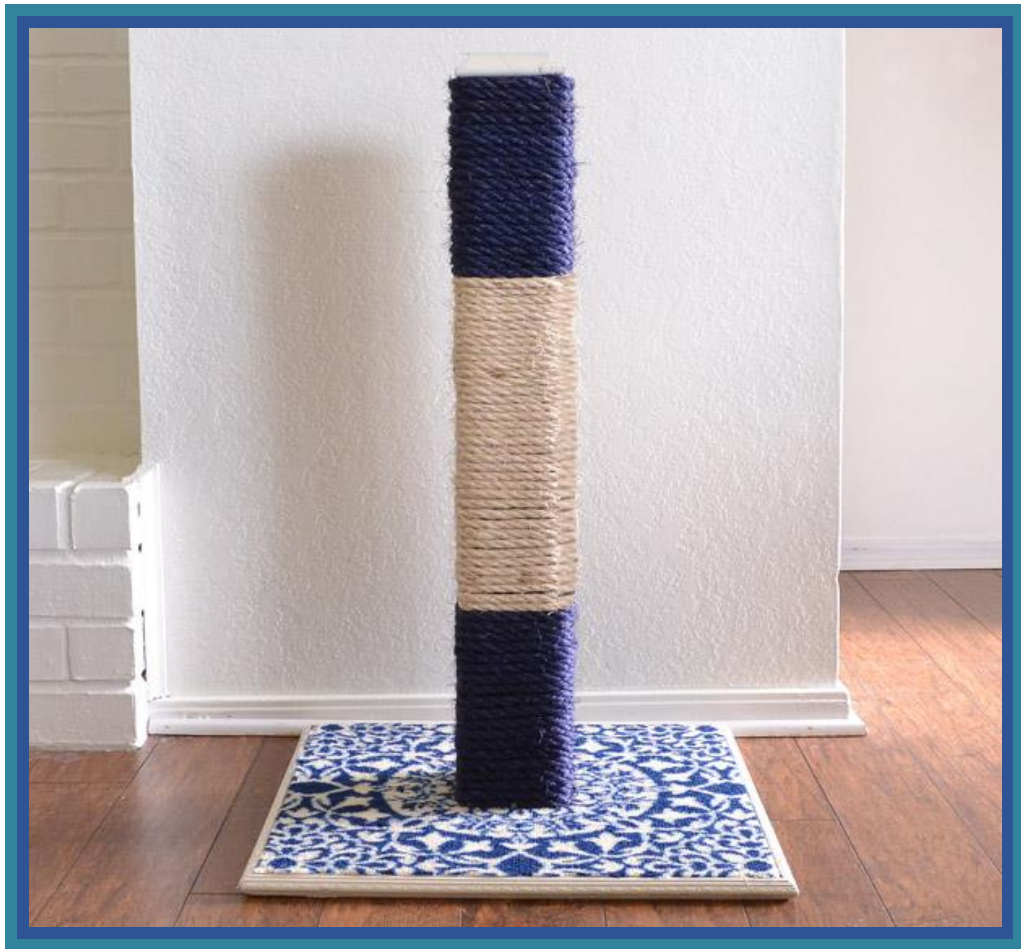
# CAT SCRATCH POST

## **Materials:**

- 4 x 4 wood fence post (cut to 20" length)
- Piece of wood for the bottom stand
- 100 feet of sisal rope
- Staple gun and/or nails
- Wood screws
- Craft knife (like X-acto)
- Optional: 4 x 4 fence post cap, power drill, rug to cover stand, hot glue gun

## **Instructions:**

1. Draw out the placement for your 4x4 post on the piece of wood. When working with a square, draw lines extending from each corner to make an "X" across the wood face. Align the square shape of your post's corners on each of the lines for a perfect center. Trace the square with a pencil. Put a thin line of wood glue inside of the square you have drawn. Place the post inside and hold. Clean up any glue that squeezes out, if necessary.
2. Turn the wood over and drill holes through your bottom square and the 4x4. Drill wood screws into the holes to permanently affix the two pieces of wood together.
3. If you have a decorative cap, attach it now. Stain the entire piece and allow to sit overnight.
4. If you'd like to use a rug to cover the stand, cut a rug to size with a 4x4 square in the middle and with a slit at the back to wrap on the wood and around the 4x4. Use wood glue to affix. You can also paint the bottom stand if you prefer or use a permanent marker to draw fun pictures or designs or write friendly messages for our cats to enjoy!
5. Take the end of your sisal rope and using your hammer and trim screws, attach to the 4 x 4 at the bottom. Wrap the rope snugly around the post, occasionally using a nail to tack down as necessary. You may also use hot glue to attach the sisal rope.



# CAT CONDO COVER

## Materials:

- Gently used sheets, pillowcases, curtains, or any other prewashed, washable fabric
- Scissors
- Thread, pins, needle

## Instructions:

1. Cut your fabric about 2 or 3 inches wider and 4 or 5 inches longer than the door size. (Door size is 29.5"W x 29"L)
2. Fold each side twice to cover the raw edge, pin or press, stitch your hems. Finished rectangle should be about 3 inches longer than the door length and about an inch wider.
3. Measure and mark the door length on each side of your hemmed rectangle, fold at the marks and stitch down the cap with a narrow seam on the outside edges.

*Hint:* Cut a strip of heavy cardboard the width of the door and use it to measure the sewing line for the cap. If the cap fits easily over the cardboard strip, it will fit the top of the door!



# ROPE TOYS

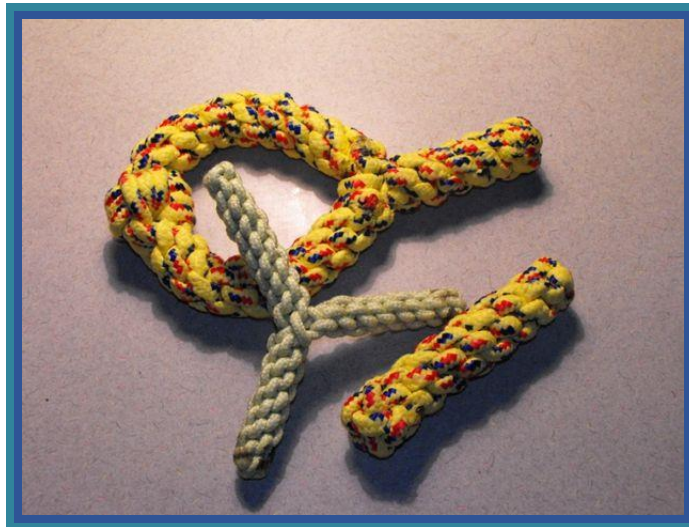
The following rope toys are a bit more challenging to make, but they are very good for our heavy chewers and have been specially requested for the dogs at our behavior center. The extra time it may take to make these is very much appreciated by both our dogs and trainers!

If you are interested in making rope toys, you can find tutorials here:

<http://www.instructables.com/id/Dog-Toys-for-Heavy-Chewers/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/313281717806278466/>

<http://www.instructables.com/id/How-to-make-a-ball-and-rope-dog-toy/>



# DOG TREAT DISPENSER

## Materials:

- 2 inch PVC pipe cut 12 inches long
- 2 inch PVC cap
- 2 inch threaded cap
- 1/2 inch drill bit
- 3/4 inch drill bit

## Instructions:

1. Drill pilot holes with the 1/2 inch drill bit.
2. Then drill them in with the 3/4 inch bit along the outside of your pipe.
3. Fit the cap onto one end.





# SMALL MAMMAL POUCH

The small mammal pouch can be used to hold guinea pigs during our program visits, and it can also be used for wildlife patients, especially babies, to make them feel safe and minimize stress. The pouch is enclosed on three sides, making a bag. It should take approximately 15 – 30 minutes to make!

## **Materials:**

- **Suggested fabrics:** Flannel, cotton, fleece or other tight-woven strong fabrics are all good to use. We use these fabrics to avoid catching toes during burrowing.
- Ruler
- Scissors
- Sewing Supplies (needle, thread and/or sewing machine)

## **Instructions:**

### **1. Cut Fabric:**

Cut two equal-sized rectangles. The final pouch will have the same width and half the length as the rectangles (minus seam allowances).

You can make pouches of ANY size, but an average pouch will be 6-8" wide x 12-16" long.



2. **Fold Fabric:** Fold the rectangles in half, right sides together. (Right side is the side you eventually want to show. For printed fabric, the patterned side is the right side.) The fold will be the bottom of the sack, and the opposite open end will be the top-entry of the sack.

3. **Sew Sides:** Sew the sides together. For a stronger hold, sew small stitches and double-back on the sides closest to the fold.

4. **Invert One Bag:** Invert one bag (doesn't matter which) so it is right-side out. For fabric without a print, the seam is on the wrong side and hidden on the right side.

5. **Stack the Bags:** Stack the two bags with right-sides together, so that seams are on the outside and inside of the new lined bag.



6. **Sew Top Edge:** Sew the top edge of the pouches together, leaving a small opening. The opening needs to be big enough to pull fabric through -- a few inches is usually good.

7. **Pull Fabric Through:** Pull the fabric through the opening left in the top seam. Finish pulling the fabric through the opening in the top seam. At this point, all the right sides are exposed (prints and no seams).



# HAMSTER HABITATS

Many people don't realize just how much space a hamster needs to be happy and healthy, but it is much more than the hamster cages you might buy at the pet store provide. This DIY habitat is bigger, better and provides plenty of room for your hamster!

## Materials:

- 66 - 110 quart plastic storage bin – quality is important!
  - Your bin needs to have a **minimum of 450 square inches of floor space** (measure the length and width of the bottom of the bin and multiply to figure out the floor space)
  - Bin should be made of sturdy plastic and have a locking lid
- ¼ " or ½" Hardware Cloth
- Drill
- Wire Cutters / Snips
- Exacto Knife or Dremel – this will be used to cut through the plastic lid
- Zip Ties
- Tape Measure
- Sharpie
- Duct Tape (get creative – colored tape can add some fun to the cage!)

## Instructions:

1. **Place the lid face down and use the Sharpie to draw an outline of the area to be cut.** This is where you will be placing the hardware cloth. Be sure not to get too close to the edges of the lid, but use as large an area as possible to ensure proper ventilation (minimum 18"x8").
2. **Cut out the rectangle.** Using your Exacto Knife or Dremel, start by making scores in the plastic, gradually deepening your cut each time until you are able to pop out the plastic piece. Smooth any sharp edges with sandpaper or cover with duct tape.
3. **Drill holes in the lid where the zip ties are going to be placed.** It helps to mark the spots first with a Sharpie. We recommend every 2-3 inches.
4. **Place the hardware cloth over the hole in the lid to measure the size you'll need.** Measure the cloth about 1" bigger on all sides.
5. **Use the wire cutters to cut the hardware cloth.** Cut as close to the edge of the metal as possible so that you don't have any sharp points.
6. **Turn the lid over and attach the hardware cloth to the bottom of the lid.** Use the zip ties to tightly secure the cloth.
7. **Cut the excess length of the zip ties.**
8. **Cover the edges of the hardware cloth and the zip ties with duct tape** for extra reinforcement and to cover any sharp edges from the hardware cloth.

Video tutorial: <https://youtu.be/i5e-2yKLX2Q>

Instructions with photos: <https://hamsterguru.com/how-to-make-a-hamster-bin-cage/>

