

The Snowman™ AND THE SNOWDOG



Glue String Balls

Make some beautiful wintery decorations like the garlands strung up in the trees at the snowman party in *The Snowman™* and *The Snowdog* using just a balloon, glue and string! Glittery materials and festive colours will add extra sparkle, then get creative with your designs to create a variety of decorations. Tie them on a string to make a garland, attach ribbons to hang on trees or join a big and little ball together to make a snowman! Be prepared to get messy with this fun activity which suits all ages and abilities.



You will need

- Wool or string
- Craft glue
- A bowl for your glue
- Balloons – water bomb balloons are a good size
- Newspaper or similar to protect your surfaces
- Warm soapy water – be prepared to get messy!
- Glitter (optional)

Instructions

1. Blow up the balloon to your desired size. The bigger the balloon, the bigger the ball. Try and shape your balloon into as much of a sphere as possible.



2. Rubbing some Vaseline onto your balloon will help stop the gluey string from sticking too tightly to the balloon.
3. Pour some glue into a bowl and mix in a tiny amount of water to loosen the consistency a little.



The Snowman™ and *The Snowdog* out now on DVD & Blu-ray from Universal Pictures (UK)

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4. Dip your wool in the glue and make sure that it is completely covered. Leaving it to rest in the glue for a minute or so will help the wool soak up the mixture. Take care not to get the wool tangled. Keep hold of one end or wrap it around your fingers.



5. Squeeze out the excess glue from the wool. This can also be done as you wrap the wool around the balloon, just squeeze the wool between your thumb and forefinger to remove all the excess as you go. Removing the excess will help the wool to dry faster.



6. Begin wrapping your wool around the balloon. Keep a firm tension, not too tight or the balloon will become misshapen, but not too loose or it will lose its form. It's a good idea to go in the same direction for a couple of loops and once secure then begin moving around the balloon to ensure it's well covered and the wool is crisscrossing all over.



7. Cut off the end of the wool and tuck it in.



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8. To give your ball a stronger finish you can roll the balloon in the glue bowl and again squeeze out any excess. At this stage you could roll your ball in glitter for extra sparkle.



9. Leave the balloons to dry with the balloons still inflated inside. They should be dry within 24 hours, but the time will vary depending on how gluey your string was.



10. Once your ball is completely dry you can snip a hole in the balloon and ease it away from the wool. Carefully remove the deflated balloon and you will be left with a beautiful glue string ball!

11. Tie a ribbon to your ball to create a simple tree decoration or get creative with sequins and glitter to add some sparkle. You can tie multiple balls onto a long piece of string to create a garland or attach a small ball to a big one and decorate to make a glue string snowman!



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