



DIY PROJECTS



Children and youth are some of the greatest supporters of animals and the work we do. Here are ways you can help!



KNIT BLANKETS FOR CATS AWAITING ADOPTION

All of the cats in our care receive a blanket or towel to make their cat cubby more comfortable. The cats especially love knit blankets. This is a great way to learn a new skill, or practice an old one, and benefit the cats on our campus. For cats we suggest at least 18"x20" (or bigger).



FLEECE BLANKETS FOR CATS AND DOGS AWAITING ADOPTION

Can't knit? Try making one of these blankets. We always need blankets for our animals. If you are not into knitting, as mentioned above, you might consider an easier version of making blankets. We take blankets of all sizes, but for cats we suggest at least 18"x20" (or bigger) and for dogs, 40"x25" (or bigger).

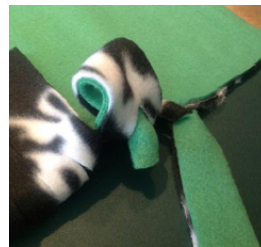
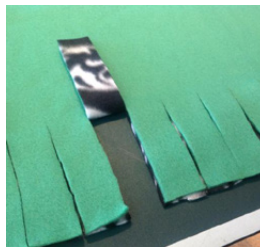
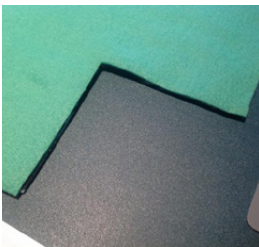
For a video and/or written tutorial on how to make these blankets please visit the following links:

VIDEO: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fQrkU9dN54s>

WRITTEN INSTRUCTIONS: <http://www.projectlinus.org/patterns/pdf/NoSewFB.pdf>



Pictures of steps:



Final product:



RECYCLED CARDBOARD KITTY SCRATCHERS

Cats naturally pick certain things to scratch. Scratching lets them stretch, work their nails and have a sense of belonging. We are looking for inexpensive ways to meet the needs of our cats these homemade scratchers are a great option.



Recycled Cardboard Kitty Scratchers:

Supplies needed:

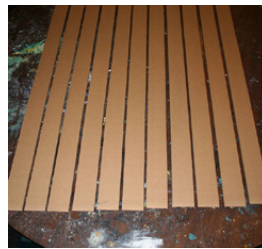
- Cardboard boxes (all sizes, all kinds, at least 5 medium size boxes)
- Ruler
- Nontoxic glue
- Hole punch
- Twine, rope or yarn to hang
- Masking tape
- Box cutter
- Scrap paper, felt, or fabric
- Decorative paper or fabric

Instructions:

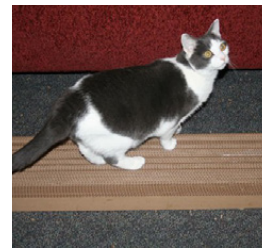
1. Cut several strips of the cardboard approximately 4"x10". Corrugated cardboard can be hard to cut. Have an adult help if needed and be careful to protect what you're cutting on.
2. Cover your work surface with newspaper to catch glue spills.
3. Lay the first strip flat on your newspaper. Take the next strip and cover with glue and lay it on top of the first one. Continue in this manner until you have enough layered to be about 4" high.
4. Put a weight on top of the pile to hold it while it dries and becomes sandwiched tightly together.

VIDEO: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yew4_Xn3k_E

Pictures of steps:



Final product:



CAPTIVATING CATNIP TOYS

We try to provide a healthy environment for the cats awaiting adoption, which includes giving them plenty of toys. One of their favorites is catnip-filled socks. All you need are socks, cotton balls, dried catnip, and a needle and thread.

Supplies Needed:

- Socks
- Cotton Balls or polyester filling
- Dried Catnip
- Needle and thread or hot glue gun

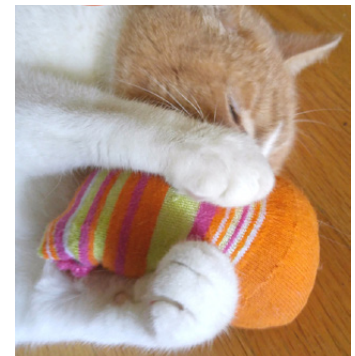
Instructions:

1. Take a crew sock and fill it with cotton balls or polyester filling.
2. Add a wad of catnip in the center – a teaspoon or so should work.
3. Tie, sew or use a hot glue gun to seal.

Pictures of steps:



Final product:





DOG TOYS

Dogs love toys to snuggle, chew and play with.

If you would like to provide some comfort for our animals here are some fun toys you can make:

<http://prettyfluffy.com/diy-tutorials/diy-projects/diy-no-sew-heart-toy>



DIY "ROPE" TOYS

Supplies needed:

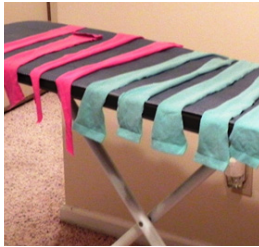
- Old t-shirts or synthetic fleece material
- Fabric scissors

Instructions:

1. Cut inch-wide strips from your material. Leave 2 strips out to use.
2. Select 3 strips for each toy
3. Bunch together the strips and firmly tie one strip around an end to join them.
4. Tightly braid the strips together.
5. Tie the other end with one strip.



Pictures of steps:



Final product:



DOG ENRICHMENT TOYS

Toy enrichment is one way to curb boredom and present a dog with a fun and challenging task. Snuffle Mats are one way to provide enrichment to dogs and are easy to make. Treats or even whole meals can be hidden in the Snuffle Mat for a hungry dog to sniff out and enjoy! Snuffle Mats are a fun and easy way to exercise their brain while in their kennel by using their keen sense of smell to sniff out the treat inside.

Snuffle Mat Instructions

Supplies needed:

- A rubber anti-fatigue mat (with drainage holes)
- A lot of synthetic fleece (the amount will depend on the size of your mat)
- Fabric scissors

Instructions:

1. Cut your mat down if needed.
2. Cut out your strips. Remember, they don't have to be perfectly even or oversized.
3. Take one of your strips and tie a piece through each hole going down each row until you've done the whole mat.
4. Go back and tie pieces on the diagonal, to fill the gaps.

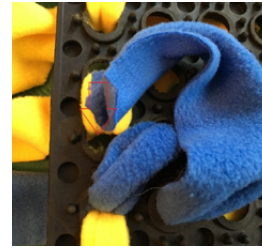
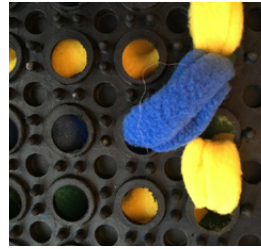
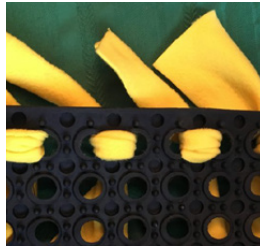


Find a step by step here:

<https://iheartdogs.com/diy-let-your-dog-dig-for-food-and-treats-in-this-entertaining-mat/>

<https://www.thehonestkitchen.com/blog/diy-make-your-dog-or-cat-a-snuffle-matt/>

Pictures of steps:



Final product:



Dog Tug Toys

Help our dogs stay engaged in their cubbies by making a pull/chew dog toy.

Supplies needed:

- Old ball (a tennis ball* works great)
- About 1/2 yard of Fabric
- A piece of ribbon
- Scissors

Instructions:

1. Gather supplies – can use old t-shirts, balls kids no longer use or buy new.
2. Cut fabric into 3 strips – roughly 6" x 14" pieces.
3. Fold the fabric strips in half and wrap around ball (place ball in the center of the folds).
4. Tie your ribbon as tight as you can around the base of the ball after wrapping it several times around.
5. Cut tail of your fabric into several 2" wide strips; then using three strips at a time braid them into sections. Try to make braids as tight as possible (it's harder for little teeth to rip them apart).
6. Using excess fabric at the end of each braid tie several knots to keep the braids in place.

Pictures of steps:



Final product: