



Thank you for your interest in helping the animals of the Animal Welfare League of Arlington!

This *Do-It-Yourself* packet outlines several fun and easy projects that will help our animals have a better experience while in our care!

When your project is finished, please complete the [Passion Into Action Challenge Volunteer Hours Form](#) to let us know how many hours you spent on completing your project, give us feedback on your experience, and schedule the delivery of your completed project items. You will be emailed a copy of your service details once you submit the form.

Note: A Parents may need to assist in completing this form for younger children (an email address is required).

If you have any questions about this project or have an idea for other projects that you'd like to consider, please contact Jennifer Katac, Director of Community Programs at jkatac@awla.org or (703) 931-9241, ext. 213



Hot Diggity Dogs!

Materials:

- Chicken-based hot dogs (read the ingredients list)
- Cutting board
- Knife (be sure to ask a parent)
- Snack or sandwich size ziploc bags



Instructions:

1. Using cutting board and knife, cut up chicken based hot dogs and put them into sandwich or snack-sized baggies. You will need to cut them into very small pieces.
2. Put your cut-up hot dog pieces into baggies.
3. Freeze the hot dog baggies.
4. Deliver frozen hot dog baggies to AWLA.
5. Make AWLA doggies very happy!

How this helps the shelter:

We use the hot dogs as treats for dogs. This helps with training or to distract them when they need to get a shot or have their nails trimmed.



Octopus Dog Toy

Materials:

- Tennis Ball
- T-shirt or ½ yard of fabric
- Scissors



Instructions:

1. Lay your t-shirt on a flat surface and mark off your cuts. You'll want to make 2 pieces that are 5-6 inches wide and a thinner strip about 2 inches wide. Once you cut up your shirt, you'll end up with 2 tub-like pieces, and an extra piece from the top.
2. Cut each tube piece along one seam to make them into long strips.
3. Use the extra-wide piece of fabric from the top to wrap the ball. Then lay the two wide strips of fabric in the shape of an X and place the ball in the middle.
4. Wrap the ball with all the layers and gather the strips at the bottom of the ball. Take your skinny strip and tie a tight double knot to secure the fabric-wrapped ball. Now you should have four wide strips hanging from the base of your ball.
5. Cut each of the four strips into three even sections. You will have 12 sections total.
6. Braid the 3 newly cut strips and tie a knot at the bottom. Repeat until you have 4 braids total.

Note: it is very important that the braids be tight. If they are too loose. We will be unable to give them to the dogs due to safety issues.



How this Helps the Shelter:

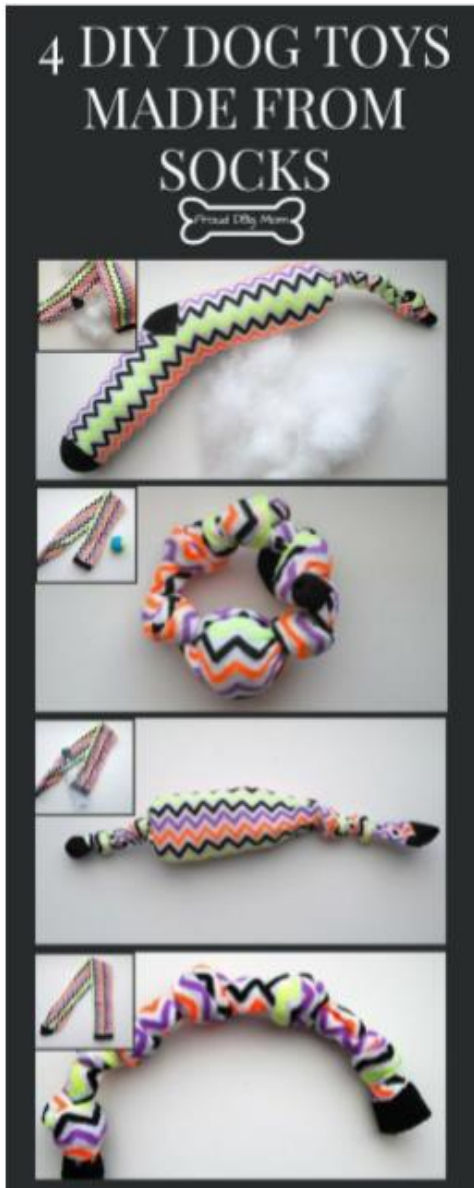
It gives our dogs something fun to do during their stay with us!

No Sew Sock Toys

Materials Needed:

- Long socks
- Squeakers
- Polyfill Stuffing or cotton balls
- Tennis Balls

All of these projects require a long sock. Please use clean, gently-used, colored (not white) socks for these toys. Thank you!



Instructions:

Option 1: Stuff $\frac{3}{4}$ of sock with cotton balls or polyfill and hide the squeaker in the middle. Tie a knot in the sock about the stuffing. Leave about 1 inch and continue tying knots until the end.

Option 2: Tie a knot at the toe-end of the sock. Insert a tennis ball. Working your way up the sock continue to tie knots leaving 1-2 inches between knots. Tie both ends together to form a circle.

Option 3: Tie one or two knots in the toe end of the sock, depending on length. Insert a clean & empty water bottle (with the cap removed) into the sock. Tie a knot in the other end of the sock, securing the water bottle in place.

Option 4: Tie a knot at one end of the sock. Leaving an inch between each knot, continue tying knots until you reach the end.

How this helps the shelter: It gives our dogs something fun to play with during their stay with us!

Dog Rope Toys

The following rope toys are a bit more challenging to make, but they are very good for our heavy chewers. The extra time it takes to make these is very much appreciated by our staff and our dogs!

If you are interested in making these rope toys, you can find the materials and instructions here:

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

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

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



How this helps the shelter: It gives our dogs something fun to play with during their stay with us!

Dog Treat Dispenser

Materials:

- 2 inch PVC pipe cut 12 inches long
- 2 inch PVC cap
- 2 inch PVC threaded cap
- ½ inch drill bit
- ¼ inch drill bit

Instructions:

1. Drill pilot holes with the ¼ inch drill bit
2. Then drill them in with the ½ inch drill bit along the outside of your pipe.
3. Fit the cap onto one end
4. The other camp will screw on once the dispenser is filled with treats!



How this helps the shelter: It gives our dogs something fun to play with during their stay with us and they have to work to get it out so it stimulates their brain!

Cuddly Dog Blanket

Materials:

- Sharp Scissors
- Fleece

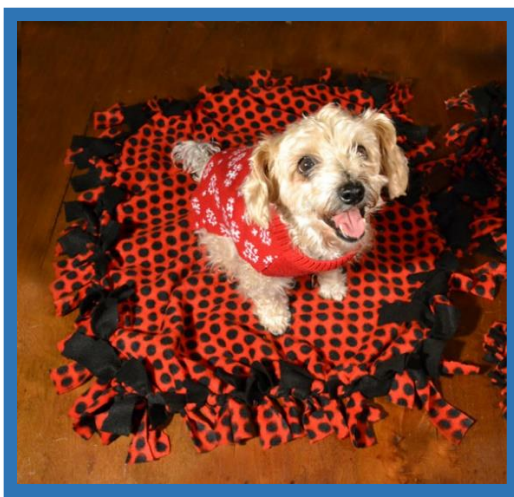
Instructions:

1. Decide on the size of the blanket. 48"x26" is a good size for a dog blanket.
2. Fold the fabric in half or place two pieces on top of each other and cut the fabric into the size and the shape you want.
3. With the two pieces lined up, cut strips about ¾"-1" wide and 4-5" long around the entire piece of fabric.
4. Take one strip from the top layer and tie it to the corresponding strip beneath, creating a secure knot (usually knotting it twice will make it secure).

Note: Please do not add any stuffing inside the blanket

Here's a how-to-video with several variations of making the blanket:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R3UgR6rKEoE>



How this helps the shelter: It gives our dogs soft and warm blankets to the beds that we provide during their stay at AWLA!

Pre-owned Snuggles

Materials:

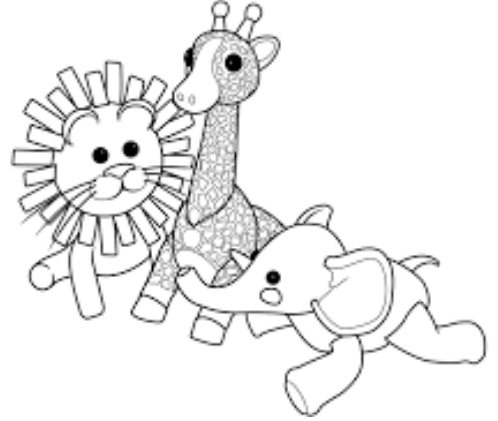
- Stuffed animals
- Scissors
- Needle and Thread

Instructions:

1. Collect stuffed animals 8 inches or less in size from friends and family that they no longer want/need.

Please do not collect larger stuffed animals as we have limited storage.

2. Cut out and remove any ribbons, tags, eyes, and plastic parts.
3. Sew any holes closed.



How this helps the shelter: It gives our dogs cuddly toys to snuggle and play with during their stay at AWLA.

Bonus: It also helps the environment because you are repurposing stuffed animals that are no longer wanted instead of putting them into the trash!