



Make a friendly octopus

Are you looking for something fun to craft? These friendly woolly octopuses are colourful and make great presents. You can tie them to a key ring or a bag, pin them up as decorations or make them bouncy by attaching them to some elastic.

The size of your octopus will depend on the thickness of the wool. Thin wool makes thinner plaits and a smaller octopus. The octopuses in the picture are 14 centimetres long and made with double-knit wool.

What you need

- Coloured wool – thicker wool is easier to handle
- Scissors
- A ruler
- Glue
- Sticky tape
- Card for eyes
- A pen
- A key ring

TOP TIPS

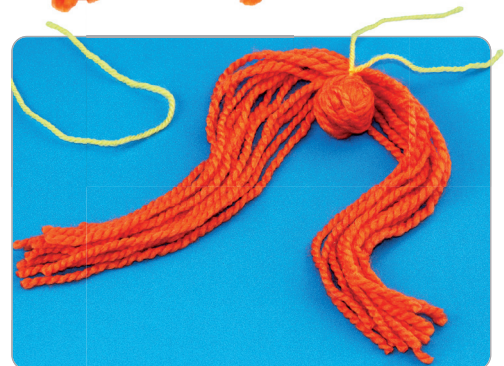
Make them in your friends' favourite colours, or use a mix of wools to make a multi-coloured octopus.



1 Cut a two-metre length of thick wool then wind it into a tight ball for the head. Glue or tape the end so it doesn't come undone.



2 Cut 12 40cm lengths of wool and gather them in a long bunch. Wrap 10cm wool round the middle then tie a knot to hold it together.



3 For the head, put the ball in the middle of the bunch and pull the strands around it, covering the ball evenly. Tie a piece of wool underneath.



4 Fix the octopus on the work surface with a piece of tape. Separate three strands from the bunch and plait them to make the first leg.



5 Keep plaiting the wool, three strands each time until you have eight legs. Tie the ends of each leg into a knot then trim with scissors.



6 Cut card circles, add dots for eyes and glue in place. Remove the tape at the top and tie the octopus to a key ring with a secure knot.

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SCAN ME