

You can buy pom-pom makers at most craft stores and if you plan on making lots of pom-poms, it might be worth investing in one or more in different sizes. But when you're making just a few, you can create your own pom-pom maker with a piece of cardboard.

Materials Needed

Cardboard

Circular items to trace (small glass, lids, etc.)

Pen

Scissors

Yarn

- Use lids and other round items to trace circles onto the cardboard. Trace a larger circle with a smaller circle inside. The larger circle determines the diameter of your finished pom-pom.
- By making a few sizes of templates, you can make several sizes of pom-poms.
- Cut out around the larger circles. (Don't use your good sewing scissors for this!) Next, cut a slit to get to the centre circle and cut away the centre. You may want to widen the slit a tiny amount, to make it easier to pass yarn through.
- Begin wrapping yarn around the cardboard ring. Hold the end of the yarn in place while you wrap over the end, which secures it.
- Work your way around the entire ring, filling in all the gaps.
- You can work the wrapping near the slit in the ring, but make sure it doesn't get so close that it might slip off the ends of the cardboard.
- Wrap the cardboard ring until it is full and then wrap it some more. To create a full and round [pom-pom](#), you should wrap the yarn so the ring is very plump and the centre circle is nearly filled in.
- If you want a loose and floppy pom-pom you can stop wrapping sooner.
- Trim the wrapping yarn, then start snipping through the wrapped yarn all along the edge of the ring. Be sure to cut through every strand of yarn. Sharp scissors with a small point make this part easier.
- As you cut the yarn, be careful not to let the cut pieces push to one side or come out through the opening.
- When all the edges are snipped, cut a length of yarn and tie it around the middle of the pom-pom, close to the cardboard ring. Tie the yarn once, then wrap the ends around to the other side and tie a double knot.
- Pull the yarn as tight as you can, without breaking the yarn. Leave the ends long.
- Remove the cardboard template.
- At this point, your pom-pom probably looks a little odd and misshapen. To fix this, trim the yarn to even out the shape. It's a bit like giving the pom-pom a haircut!
- Hold onto the long yarn ties and work all around the pom-pom. Keep turning it as you trim so it doesn't end up lopsided.
- When the pom-pom looks like it's almost done, gently roll it in your hands. This fluffs the pom-pom and reveals any areas that may need a little more trimming.
- Trim and repeat as needed.