



Treat Puzzles for Furry Friends

Giving our pets challenges keeps their minds (and paws) busy! Toys allow them to have fun, but also to express natural behaviours. Try out these two fun projects for cats or for small animals like hamsters, rats or bunnies.

Materials: Scissors, untreated wood for chewing, species-appropriate treats, assorted cardboard tubes or packages (no inks or bleaching preferred), paper egg carton

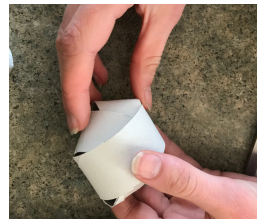
Directions:

1

Project 1: Ring ball

Mark five, one centimetre (or finger-width) marks on the side of a cardboard paper roll.

Use scissors to cut each ring. Insert one ring into a second ring to form a "t". Continue inserting all the rings until you've formed a ball. Push treats inside for extra play action!



Project 2: Treat puzzle box

This one requires lots of recycling materials. Use a box lid or shallow cardboard box as a base.

2

Fit paper tubes, small boxes or egg cartons together to make hidey-holes for treats. Crinkly paper adds extra fun and spots to explore.

Use your imagination! Hide some of your pet's favourite treats and then let them figure out how to get at the tasty snacks. You can even hide a toy in one of the tubes.

For small pets, make the box a bit less full so there is room to run around and explore. For them, you can also include some untreated wood for them to gnaw on.



Additional Resources

Pets like rats, guinea pigs and rabbits have teeth that NEVER stop growing! So they need to chew in order to keep their teeth worn down.

Why is it so important for small animals to have things to chew on? *

- flip for answer

