

# Toddler Friendly Pinless Pinwheels

By Duck Pond Playspace in San Jose, CA

To make one pinwheel you'll need:

- Cardstock or craft foam: 6in x 6in square and extra to cut out small circular washers.
- Pipe cleaner: 1/2 of one, approx 6in
- Stapler or glue stick/dots
- Scissors or hole punch
- Straw or pencil
- 3 pony beads
- Ruler

1. Cut out your 6in x 6in square from the cardstock. Using a ruler, draw a straight line from corner to corner so it forms an X. Fold the paper on half with the lines showing so you can see where the X meet in the middle. Using scissors or a hole punch, make a hole in the center where the X meets.
2. Next you'll cut the fins. Unfold the paper, and using scissors cut down each line stopping about 1in from the center.
3. Take your scissors or hole punch and make a hole near the left tip of each fin. Don't get too close to the edge or you it won't hold together.
4. Fold each fin that has a hole into the center. Match up the holes. Once the holes are aligned, staple them together (staple on one side of the holes, don't cover the hole).
5. You can also use a glue stick or glue dots, you just have to make sure no glue touches the circles.
6. Cut out a small circle from your extra cards stock, about 1in around. Using your scissors or hole punch, make a hole in the middle. This will be your washer.
7. Take your pipe cleaner and fold over one end so you can slide one pony bead onto it without the bead falling off. Slide the paper washer onto the pipe cleaner.
8. Feed the pipe cleaner through the hole in your pinwheel.
9. Add the two remaining pony beads.
10. Take your straw or pencil and wrap the remaining pipe cleaner around the top portion.
11. Make sure the pinwheel is straight, so it spins without the fins hitting the straw.
12. The key to making it work really well is having the middle circle and fin circles large enough, the same size, and secure with the staple or glue.



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Happy Pinwheel Making!



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