

# Creating a Fly Toy for Your Kitty

## Supplies

- Big pom-poms (about 1.75" in diameter)
- Medium pom-poms (about 1" in diameter)
- Sturdy cord or twine
- Feathers
- Ribbon
- Large eye needle (a leather sewing needle works well)
- Needle threader
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Wand - 3/8" diameter to 1/2" diameter wooden dowel approximately 14" to 15" long, with hole drilled in one end, or substitute\*
- Hot glue gun, or other adhesive\*\*

## Note on Wand

If you cannot get a wooden dowel, there are other things you might use. For instance, a bamboo back scratcher with a hole at one end for hanging works great.

***Your mom or dad must approve whatever you are using as the stick for this toy.*** Even a dowel that seems smooth might be rough or pointed on the ends.

Never use heavy wood or metal. You or your cat might get hurt if you get hit hard. Do not use anything with a point on the end that might poke you or your cat. If you use a branch cut from a tree, make sure all rough edges are smoothed with sand paper or wrapped in duct tape.

## Note on Hot Glue Gun

Adhesives that are fabricated for crafts can be used for these projects. Make certain to read all directions and allow time for drying.

Hot glue guns are fast and effective. Hot glue guns can also be dangerous. A burn can be a major injury.

Vanessa's mom will not let Vanessa use the hot glue guns in her studio. ***You should not use a hot glue gun without your parent's permission and they should be physically present with you if they are allowing you to use it!***

## Designs

Vanessa and her mom have shared three different designs. Pick the one you think your kitty will like the most or try all of them!

### **I. Ornament Fly Toy**

1. Start with one of Mom's Christmas ornaments.
2. Cut a piece of cord about 22" long.
3. Tie one end of the cord to the hanger loop at the top or the ornament.



4. Arrange feathers around the button spacer at the top of the ornament.
5. Glue the feathers under the button spacer (use a toothpick to push end of feathers under the spacer).
6. Tie the loose end of the cord to the wand. Put a dab of glue on the knots at each end of the cord.



***Next Page***

## **II. Bouncing Pom-Poms Fly Toy**

1. Pick out three (3) large pom-poms.
2. Cut three pieces of cord as follows: 1-piece 14" long; 1-piece 11" long; and 1-piece 8" long. Put a double knot at one end of each cord.



3. Use threader to thread large-eye needle. Push needle through middle of one pom-pom and pull cord through. Repeat with other 2 pom-poms.

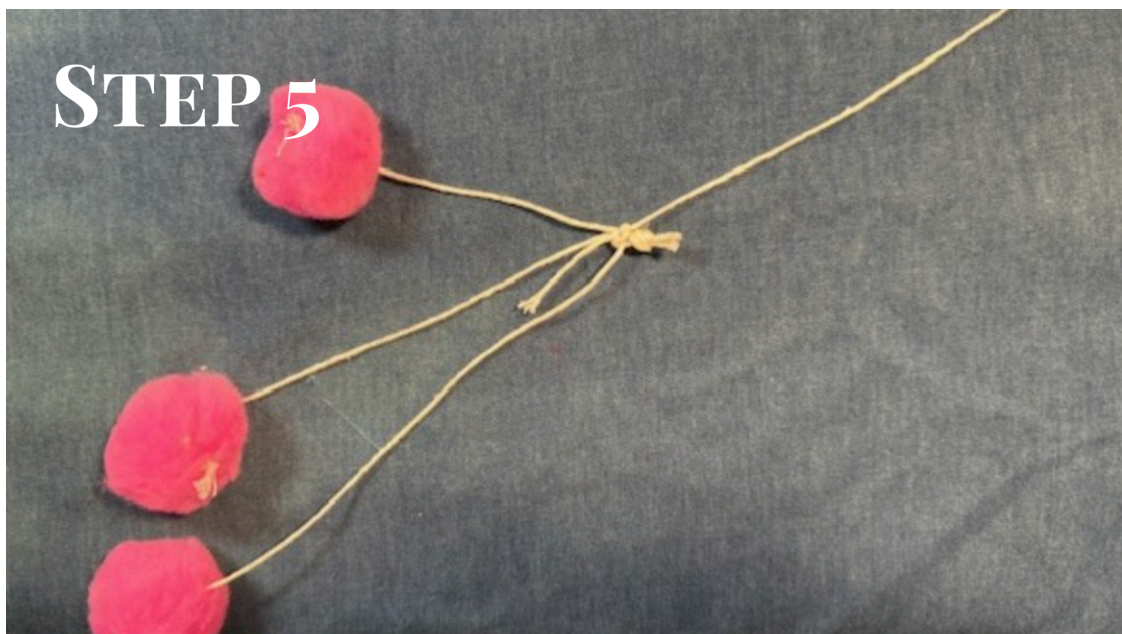




4. Gather the free end of all 3 cords together and tie with an overhand knot.



5. Cut a piece of cord about 20" long. Tie one end under the knot holding the three cords together, first tying the 20" cord to the middle cord, then bringing it around all three cords.



6. To hide the double knot, hot glue three pom-poms around it, as follows:
  - a. Put a dab of glue on the knot and press it into one of the pom-poms.
  - b. Put a dab of glue on the knot and an adjacent part of the first pom-pom that you attached, then press the second pom-pom in that space.
  - c. Put another dab of glue on the knot that is still visible, and a dab on the pom-pom on each side of the knot. Press the third pom-pom into place and hold all 3 tightly until you are sure they have bonded. Note: use smaller pom-poms for this section (approximately 1" in diameter).



7. Attach loose end of cord to wand with double knot. Use a dab of glue to secure knot.

***Next Page***



***Next Page***

## **Variations**

This is fun! Be creative! Just be certain that the materials you use won't injure your own little panther (or tiger). If you are not certain, ask your veterinarian for guidance.

### **Add Ribbon**

Notice that Vanessa cut the cord attaching the pom-poms to the wand and tied a long ribbon in that spot. Smudge loves it!

### **Pom-Pom Birds Fly Toy**

This is a variation on the Bouncing Pom-Poms. Add feathers to each pom-pom to turn them into fat little birds.

Just put a large drop of glue on the top of the pom-pom so it flows around the cord.

Then add five or six feathers around the cord, pressing them into the glue with a chopstick or orange stick.