



DIY SHOE BOX POOL NOODLE HOBBY HORSE INSTRUCTIONS



BASIC SUPPLIES:

1. **Pencil, pen or markers**
2. **Chalk** or white pencil (for marking on dark colored paper or felt)
3. **Ruler**
4. **Scissors**
5. **Glue** (Regular school glue to glue paper will be fine. If you want to use felt for any of the parts, you will need a stronger glue like E6000, Tacky Glue, Elmer's Glue-All Extra Strong hold or a hot glue.)
6. **Patterns** - Download the Shoe Box Hobby Horse Pattern at www.hobbyhorsingusa.com/free-downloads
7. **Cardstock** or a File Folder – to trace the pattern piece if making more than one horse
8. **Pool noodles**: One per child. However, if children are small you may wish to cut them in half. Pool noodles usually vary in size ranging from 46” to 54” long. If you are going to insert a dowel or PVC pipe into the noodle, adjust the length of the noodle and dowel accordingly.
9. A **Box** that is the size you would like for your horse's head – this can be a shoe box (from a child's pair of shoes) or a cardboard box from a package. If the box is too big, the noodle won't hold the weight and if too small the noodle won't fit inside. (If you need more boxes or want them all the same size, you can find boxes for these horses at Uline or on Amazon for under \$1.00 each.
10. **Tape** to hold the box lids together as you are working on it.
11. **Construction paper** to cover your box as well as for the eyes, ears and nose.
 - a. You can also use paint and/or markers to colorize your horse and draw in eyes, mouth, and nose.
 - b. Consider using felt for the ears and mane to give your horse more personality.
12. **Duct Tape** or similar tape: used to connect the pool noodle to the head

ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES TO ADD MORE TO YOUR HOBBY HORSE:

1. **Yarn** (optional) for mane and or mouth. You need approx. 15 yards of yarn for a yarn mane.
2. **Cardboard** (optional): cut to 3 ½ by 12” that you'll use to wrap the yarn around to create the mane.
3. **Dowel or PVD pipe** (optional) if you wish to have more of a stick horse than a pool noodle horse.

STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTION FOR SHOE BOX HOBBY HORSE

1. Gather all **supplies**.
2. Trace and cut out all the **Pattern Pieces** out of **Construction Paper** or (felt) the color you would like the eyes, ears, and nose to be.
3. Cover the **Box** with the desired color of **Construction Paper** you want, gluing pieces until the entire surface is covered. (Or paint the entire surface of the box – your choice!)

4. Hold the **Pool Noodle** at the base of the **Box**, along the narrow side where you want the noodle to be inserted. We suggest placing the noodle, centered on the narrow side about 1 ½ - 2” in from the end. (Refer to the diagram on the Hobby Horse Pattern page.)
 - a. With a pencil, draw a circle on to the box around the pool noodle.
 - b. Next, with a ruler, draw a square around the circle – labeling each corner A, B, C, and D.
 - c. Draw a line down the center of your square (from Line A-B to D-C) – labeling each end E and F.
 - d. Cut the front line of the square – (Cut A to B) and the back line of the square – (Cut D to C)
 - e. Next, cut a center line (Cut E to F).
 - f. Fold back the 2 flaps giving you the opening in which your pool noodle will be inserted.
5. Glue the **Pupils** on to the **Outside Eyes**. Set aside until the glue sets.
6. If using the optional inside ears, glue the **Inner Ears** to the **Outer Ears**. Set aside until the glue sets.
7. Fold the **Ears** in half lengthwise and put a little bit of glue on the inside bottom of each ear. Fold and clothes pin the ear together – so they look like a horse’s ears. Repeat for second ear. Set aside until the glue sets.
8. Glue the **Eyes** on each side of the head.
9. Glue the **Nostrils** on the front of the face.
10. Glue the **Ears** towards the back on the sides of the head.
11. For the **Mouth**, draw a line where the mouth should be (under the nose and along each side of the face). At this time, you can glue a piece or two of yarn on this line to give it a thicker mouth. Or, just draw a thicker line for the mouth.
12. Create a **Mane**
 - a. For the **Flat Mane**, having cut out the pattern piece from either felt or paper, make 2 ½” cuts about ½” apart down the length of the mane (as indicated on the pattern). Glue the mane from the forehead of the horse, down past the ears and down the back of the horse. If you have a bigger box, you may want to make your mane longer than the pattern piece.
 - b. For the **Yarn Mane**, using the 3 ½” x 12” piece of cardboard, loosely wrap the yarn around and around down the length of the cardboard. Put glue on your horse’s head, between the ears on the forehead and down the back of the head. Carefully slide the yarn off the cardboard and with one of the folded edges of the yarn, adhere along the glued stripe. Once it is all glued down and set, cut the other side of the folded yarn of the mane to make fringe.
13. Insert the **Pool Noodle** into the hole you cut with the cardboard pieces surrounding the noodle. Wrap **Duct Tape** around the cardboard and noodle to secure the noodle onto the box.
14. Trim the **Noodle** to the size you wish that best fits your child. Standard is about 36” from the top of the head to the bottom of the pool noodle. Optional - If you wish, at this time, insert a dowel or PVC pipe into the noodle.
15. **Have fun Hobby Horsing!**

Shoe Box Pool Noodle Hobby Horse Pattern Pieces

Pool Noodle Insert Cutting Pattern

