

Balloon Recipe

Bouncing Buddy

Create this long-lasting "Bouncing Buddy" for an easy-to-transport cash-and-carry item. He's perfect for birthday, get well or just because!

Estimated Cost: About \$5

Labor: About 10 minutes

Suggested Retail Price: \$18-\$25

Instructions:

1. Make a four-balloon cluster using two 5-inch Yellow latex, one 5-inch Dark Blue latex and one 5-inch Red latex. To do this, inflate and size two balloons to 4 inches and tie them into a pair. Repeat to make a second pair, then twist the two pairs together. Make sure the two Yellow balloons are opposite each other. Tie a weight to the center.
2. Make another four-balloon cluster and tie it onto the cluster from Step 1, rotating it so it nests. Make a third cluster and tie it onto the previous cluster, rotating it so it nests. The colors should create a spiral pattern. Set the base aside.
3. Make a Red Curly 160Q for the "body." To do this, fully inflate the 160Q with air, and let the air out to stretch it. Wrap the 160Q around a cylindrical object, stretching it a little as you go and making sure not to wrinkle or twist the balloon. Air inflate the 160Q while holding it around the cylinder, leaving about 1 inch uninflated, and tie. Tie the knot end into the base from Step 2.
4. Use a latex regulator to helium inflate the Bubble Balloon until the wrinkles in the seam disappear (it should resemble a beach ball). Cut off the Bubble's attached ribbon, then tie the uninflated end of the Curly 160Q to the Bubble's neck.
5. Make a four-balloon cluster using the remaining 5-inch latex sized to 4 inches, and wrap it around the Bubble's neck.
6. To make the "arms," inflate a Red 160Q, leaving about 4 inches uninflated. Twist a 1-inch bubble at the knot end, then make a 3-inch loop twist. To do this, twist a 6-inch bubble, then sharply bend the bubble in half and twist the ends together. Repeat to make a second arm, then tie the two arms together at the uninflated ends. Wrap the arms between the Curly 160Q body and the cluster from Step 5. Bend them slightly at the "elbows."

Materials:

- 1 22" "Smiles" Bubble Balloon
- 8 5" Yellow Latex Balloons
- 4 5" Dark Blue Latex Balloons
- 4 5" Red Latex Balloons
- 3 160Q Red Latex Balloons
- Weight

All balloons featured are Qualatex balloons from Pioneer Balloon Co. Photo and recipe are courtesy of Pioneer. For even more balloon ideas, visit "Balloon Ideas" and "Instruction Sheets" on www.qualatex.com, or call 800-771-3968.

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