

## Octopus Dog Toy Enrichment



### Materials:

- Square of Fleece (18x18 inches)
- Tennis Ball
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Non-Toxic Fabric Maker (optional)

**Time:** 20 Minutes

**Step 1:** Lay the 18x18 piece of fleece flat and using the ruler, mark and cut a 5x5 inch square **off each corner**. From one of the cut-off

Important Disclaimer: Pet toys are NOT one-size fits all, meaning not all toys are safe for every pet. We cannot guarantee the safety of any specific toy, so make sure any toy you give your pet, especially these octopus dog toys, are appropriate for them. Provide toys to your pet under supervision then put toys that could be harmful out of your pets reach when playtime is over.

squares, cut a ribbon of fleece and set aside. (Note: In class, this step has been done for you!)



**Step 2:** Cut 6 strips in each section so they line up with the edge of the corner you cut off. Make sure not to cut too deep into the center of the fleece.



**Step 3:** Place the tennis ball in **the center** of your fleece. Gather fabric tightly around the ball. Using the ribbon of fleece you cut in Step 1, secure the ribbon around the ball. Tie a tight double knot.

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**Step 4:** Select 3 strips of fleece close to each other and braid the strips together. Tie a knot at the end of each “leg.” If braiding isn’t accessible, you can twist the strips together.



Note: The knot is easiest to tie if you knot two ends of the strips together and tuck the third strip end into the knot.

**Step 5:** Continue creating braid “legs” until your octopus toy has 8 in total.

**Step 6 (Optional):** Add a face to your octopus using a non-toxic fabric marker.

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