

## How to Choose and Do a Project

1. Choose a project with the help of the members of your den. Make sure the project is something that has a purpose and that they will enjoy making.
2. Make a pattern, if needed. Have enough pattern pieces available so that no one has to wait to trace them.
3. Make a sample to show the scouts. Remember that these are age-appropriate crafts, so don't go overboard and make your sample too elaborate.
4. Gather enough materials and tools so everyone can work at the same time.
5. Teach the craft step by step:
  - a. Cut out parts, as required.
  - b. Put them together.
  - c. Finishing touches (sand, polish, paint...)
  - d. Clean up
6. Whenever possible, start a craft which can be done in a den meeting or that can be finished at home with family help. Be sure that the family is aware of the responsibility and has any instructions and materials necessary.
7. Display the craft project at a pack meeting.

### Where to Find Materials:

- **Lumber Company:** Wood scraps, sawdust, and curls of planed wood may be given away by the boxload. Make your contact and request, and then leave a marked box to return and pick up later.
- **Grocery Stores:** Check grocery stores for boxes of all sizes and shapes. Discarded soft drink cartons are excellent for holding paint cans.
- **Telephone Company:** Empty cable spools make great tables; use colorful telephone wire for many different projects.
- **Soft Drink Company:** Plastic soft drink crates may be available at a minimal charge. Use them for storage or for projects. Also, use plastic six-pack rings for various projects.
- **Gas Stations and Garages:** Tires and bike tubes are great for games and obstacle courses.
- **Wallpaper Stores:** You'll find wallpaper sample books of discontinued patterns.
- **Carpet Stores or Outlets:** Discontinued rug samples and soft foam under-padding can add to craft projects.
- **Tile Stores:** Use broken mosaic tiles for many craft projects.
- **Appliance Stores and Furniture Stores:** Large packing crates are handy for skit props and puppet theaters.
- **Newspaper Companies:** Ask about end rolls of newsprint.
- **Printing Companies:** You can never have too much scrap paper and cardstock.