

Game On!

Make a Foosball

You and your friend are playing an intense game, testing the plays you've practiced. Your next shot feels awesome—you're one point away from the win. Suddenly, your friend scores three. Your confidence dives. Do you quit playing? Accuse your opponent of cheating? Or praise them for a great game?

Being a good sport is a real victory. It's more fun for everyone when you treat others as you like to be treated.

Instead of taunts and trash talk, be encouraging. When you win, don't gloat, and if you lose, congratulate your opponent with a smile.

If competition gets too stressful, practice and beat your own record. Share your skills and cool moves with other kids learning your sport.

Make this portable game, and bring laughter and friendship wherever you go!



You'll Need

- shoebox about 8" x 10" (20.3 x 25.4 cm)
- eight 10" (25.4 cm) wooden skewers
- table tennis ball
- ten 3 1/4" (8.3 cm) wooden clothespins with springs
- paint (two colors) and paintbrushes
- water
- wrapping paper
- duct tape
- glue
- pencil
- ruler
- scissors
- craft / utility knife (and an adult to help)

- 1 Paint five clothespins one color and five another color. Make sure clips still open.



- 2 Cover box in wrapping paper and secure with glue. Wrap lid separately (use to store game).



- 3 Clip two clothespins to a skewer and stand pins up. Place skewer against long side of box. Use ruler to draw a line across box, 3/4" (1.9 cm) above skewer. Repeat on opposite side of box.



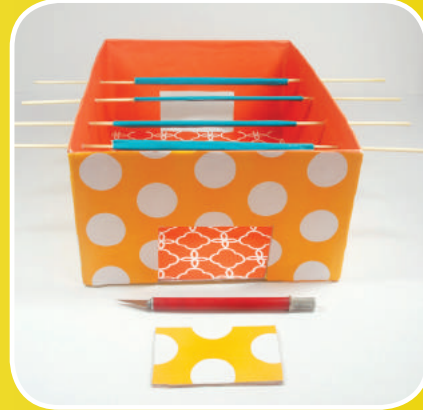
Game



- 4 On line, mark box's center. Draw dots 1" (2.5 cm) and 3" (7.6 cm) to left and right of center. Repeat on opposite side of box.



- 7 For goals, ask an adult to help cut a 2" x 3 1/4" (5 x 8.3 cm) hole centered at each end of box.



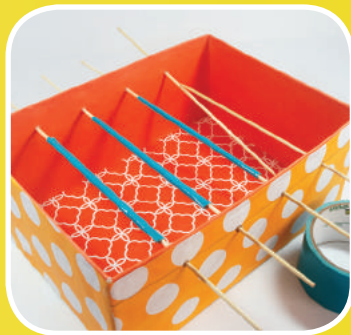
- 5 With an adult's help, poke knife point through each dot. Insert pencil and twist to widen holes.



- 8 Clip three pins of same color to each central skewer. Add two pins to each remaining skewer so row colors alternate. Space pins evenly along tape.



- 6 Put a skewer through holes on each side of box, with points inside. Each pair of skewers should overlap about 6" (15.2 cm). Secure pairs with duct tape, leaving 1" (2.5 cm) from box's sides tape-free.



To Play: Each player picks a pin color. Drop ball in middle. Rotate or shift skewers to control ball and score goals. If ball stops out of reach, nudge it to nearest pin. The winner scores five goals first.