

Making Your Own Cat Tree



Materials

- One carpet tube: This can be gotten for free from most of your carpet warehouses as they usually end up in the garbage bin.
- One sheet of plywood or particle board: I used particle board as some one was giving sheets of the stuff away on freecycle. You also should check the cut off bin at your local hardware. Home Depot has one and I have found half sheets of wood for as little as \$4.
- 2 yards of fake fur: I used what they call the lamb's wool as it is also used in pads for wheel chairs and I wanted my one old boy to feel comfortable. I bought this at Walmart for \$6.95 a yard.
- 1 long toothed floor or door mat: I bought this because, while at the pet store, I saw that they sold a unit that could be mounted on the wall for the kitties to rub against to basically comb themselves and I thought it was neat. I bought this at the Home Depot, it was to get ice and snow off of boots. I paid \$10 for it but it made two scratchers.
- 2 100 ft. lengths of jute rope: I bought this at Harbor Freight for about \$8 a roll. They have a web site where you could buy this online.
- Staples, Nails and Wood Glue
- Kitty toys to hang from perches

Tools

- Circular Saw to cut tubes and plywood or particle board
- Finish nailer to nail boards together or screw gun and screws
- Staple gun to staple fabric and rope and door mat
- 4 inch hole saw to cut round pieces of wood to fit in tubes to nail or screw into

Cutting Guide

- My husband's base was 24 by 24 inches
- 8 posts out of the carpet tube at 14 inches
- Two boxes, 14 by 15 inches
- Two perches, 14 by 14 with a two inch rim around three sides
- One L shaped board, 24 by 28 inches
- One platform, 14 by 24 inches

Attach the rounds inside the tubes with wood glue. Nail or screw tubes onto the base with nails or screws at an angle. Cover the tubes with rope or door mat cut to size. You can also cover some of the tubes with fake fur. Next attach the L shaped piece of wood, screwing or nailing into the round piece of wood at the top of the tube. Nail or screw on your houses and perches.

Attach your kitty toys where you want them and cover the whole thing in catnip. We cut the black mat with a pair of shears. Once you got down to the base, it was not very thick and pretty easy to cut. For assembly, please refer to the picture. We found that we could cover most of the pieces with fabric beforehand and that helped greatly. It will take to people two wrap the jute around the posts as one person needs to be able to staple while the other person holds the jute tight.