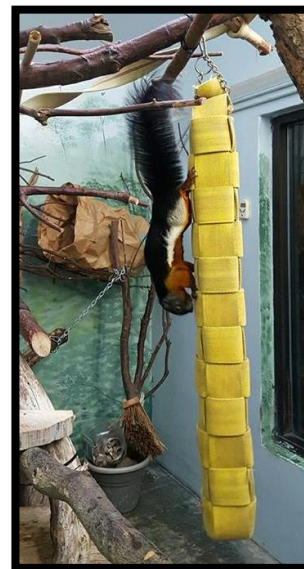
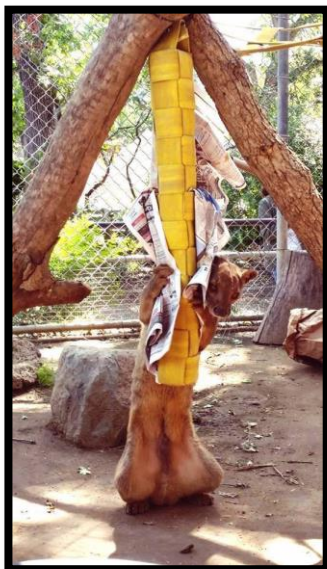




The Fire Hose Sausage Instructions

Ethan Riepl and Emily Bowling used cubes as a base and created “The Sausage” at our Redding, CA Workshop.



General Description: The fire hose “sausage” is based on the fire hose cube. It is made rings of fire hose connected by 2 long strips of fire hose, generally the same width as the rings.

Species: Most species of mammals and many birds.

Uses: Adapting the size, type of fire hose, number of rings, and other factors as appropriate, the sausage may be used for playing, chewing, grazing, browsing, and much more.

Known Safety Concerns: Entrapment in the gaps of fire hose. Ingestion of fire hose.



Items Needed:

Fire hose

Tool to cut fire hose

Bolts (3 for narrow fire hose; 6 for wide fire hose; 1.5" x 0.25"; size/amount depend on width of fire)

Lock nuts (one for each bolt)

Fender washers (twice the number of bolts as 2 will be used with each bolt)

Drill and drill bits (including hole bit if holes will be drilled in the cube)

Chain for hanging (optional)



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NOTE: Steps 1 through 4 are the same as instructions for a basic fire hose cube.

STEP 1. Determine the length of fire hose strips you will need to make the rings. To do this, measure the width of the fire hose you will use. Use the formula **W4 + 4 + 2**, which the width of the fire hose times 4 (representing the 4 sides of the cube each strip will make), plus 4” (1” of extra fire hose for each of the 4 corners; the corners cannot be folded on a sharp angle so they add to the amount of fire hose needed. 1” is an estimate. If the fire hose is very thin and bendable, it may take less. If the fire hose is very thick or hard to bend, it may take more.) + 2” (1” at each end of the strip to allow overlap to connect the ends to each other to form a loop).

For the pictures in these instructions, we used 3” wide fire hose. So the formula is $3" \times 4 + 4" + 2" = 18"$.



STEP 2. Cut pieces of fire hose to the length determined by the formula for as many rings as you need for the length that you want the sausage you are making to be.



STEP 3. Drill a hole about 1” from each end of the fire hose strips.





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STEP 4. Attach the ends of 2 of all the strips of fire hose using 2 washers, 1 bolt, and 1 nut for each strip. Trim any excess fire hose.



STEP 5. Cut two long strips of fire hose the same width as the fire hose used to make the rings. The strips should be the same length. The length of each strip should be equal to 2x the Length you want the finished sausage to be, plus 2x the Width of the fire hose (for the ends) plus about 2” (for connecting the ends of each strip). So the formula for the two long strips is $2L + 2W + 2"$. Mark the center of each long strip and place the center of each together to form an X.



STEP 6. Fold one length over and slip one ring over the loose ends of the folded length of fire hose. Slide the ring down until it meets the other length, as shown below.





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STEP 7. Slide another ring over the two loose ends of the second length of fire hose. Slide the ring down until it is snug against the first ring, as shown below. As you slide the ring down the length of fire hose, be sure to “hide” the hardware by positioning the ring so that the hardware is covered by the fire hose length that is not inside the ring, as shown below.



STEP 8. Continue to add rings, alternating which length of fire hose you slide the ring onto, remembering to “hide” the hardware as you go. It helps to just let the cat get in the way if he keeps jumping on the table.





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STEP 9. When there is no more room to add rings (or you are satisfied with the length, whichever comes first), connect the loose ends of each length of fire hose with hardware.



STEP 10. The hardware on the first length of fire hose you connect will be “hidden” by the second length you connect. The hardware on the second length of fire hose will be exposed. If you want to hide it, pull, push, and tug on that length of fire hose to “hide” the hardware under the closest ring of fire hose. This can be somewhat difficult and time consuming. It takes time and patience, but does get considerably easier with experience.



Note: The inside is hollow and the sausage is flexible. Inserting PVC pipe can make it so it will not bend. We plan to experiment with putting pool noodles and tennis balls inside sausages made of wider hose to see if it will float. We’ll update these instructions as we get modifications and refinements.

