

Marble Slide



Getting Started

Always use your imagination and be creative when building this project or any others. It's your creation, so be inventive when looking for building supplies — you just may be surprised! When building your project, experiment with new and different ways of putting it together. The most important thing is to have fun!

Find these or similar supplies!

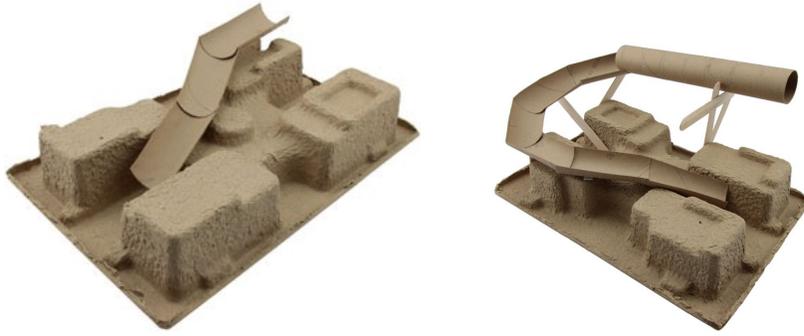
One or more marbles

- Toilet paper tubes
- Paper towel tubes
- Old Popsicle sticks, tongue depressors, real sticks or straws
- Glue gun or tape (clear, masking, duct, packing)
- Cardboard
- Large piece of cardboard



1. Gather your TP tubes!

This project is very fun and easy. You can make your marble slide however you'd like, there is no wrong or right way. Just start building and see what you end up with! Start out by cutting most of your toilet paper tubes in half (lengthwise). You can make this project as big or small as you want, so try to judge how many T.P. tubes you'll need before hand.



2. Start from the bottom!

I decided that the easiest way to build a marble slide is bottom up. Pick the spot you want your marble to come out and start from there. To make your slide you layer your T.P. tubes in an upward angle. I chose the packaging cardboard because it gave me a nice foundation for a big marble slide, but you could use any box or container.

3. Make a frame!

As your marble slide gets taller you will need to start building a frame. Glue your Popsicle sticks to the sides of your box to give your slide more elevation.



4. Add more support!

I added support as I built my marble slide higher and higher. Its amazing how easy it is to build with glue and some Popsicle sticks. The toilet paper and paper towel tubes are very light so don't worry about making your frame too sturdy (just no wobbling).

5. Add longer tubes!

I like to use the larger paper towel tubes for the straight parts of my slide. You could build a really long slide instead of a spiraling one!

6. Curve it!

The curves can be a little tricky, but feel free to trim your tubes a little to make them fit. Don't be afraid of using extra glue or tape!

7. Make a reverse drop...

There are all kinds of fun things you can do with your slide, like the reverse drop I put on the top. To make this just cut a hole in the top of one of your tubes and have a T.P. tube feed into the hole. This takes a little trimming but its a very cool addition to the slide.

8. ... Or make a longer drop!

The last piece you'll need is "the drop". This is the entrance for your marble, and you can use anything to build it. A paper cup or a shortened T.P. tube would work great. Make sure your drop piece is angled down sharply so that your marble can gain speed and momentum.



9. Final touches!

The final touches are all that's left! We decided to make some signs out of cardboard and some tools from two toothpicks and some paper. Now we have an awesome Mine Shaft Marble Slide! You can do any theme here, maybe your slide will be a roller coaster, a jungle, or a cool water park. Use your imagination and have fun!