

Thank you so much for helping make toys for our cats! We use some of these toys with the cats when they are at the shelter and others go home with an adopted cat so they have a toy in their new home. If you have any questions, please contact the Volunteer Coordinator at volunteer@jointanimalservices.org.

Catnip Mouse

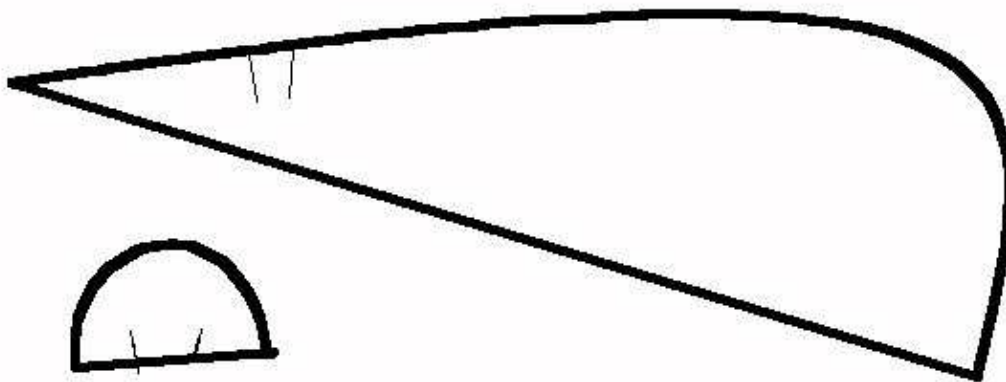
What you'll need:

- One 8x10 felt square (any color)plush or regular felt
- Embroidery thread that matches the felt
- A jingle bell
- Cat nip
- Glue and thread
- Stuffing

How to do it:

Cut out the body of the mouse on a fold (so that the straight part of the mouse is on the fold.) Then cut out two of the circles for ears. Once you have the pieces cut out, you will want to sew the mouse body together all the way except about an inch from the point on the nose. Now stuff your mouse and put some cat nip in there too! Now go ahead and sew the rest of the mouse up. Once that is done, you will want to glue the ears on. Fold the ears on the lines and glue them where ever you think the ears should go. Then cut a long piece of embroidery thread and tie the jingle bell to the end of it. Then glue or hand sew the tail to the mouse's rear end. Let all the glue dry and you have wonderful catnip mouse to play with.

Note: You can also leave the mouse inside the box or bag of catnip overnight. Then the smell will stay there longer and be stronger.



Kitty Glove Toy

Take an old knitted glove with fingers and attach a string through each of the fingers. This can be done with a crochet hook and making a knot on the inside of the finger so it won't pull through. Now you can attach things to the ends of the strings, like bells, feathers, rubber spiders or pom-poms.

Catnip Pillows

Materials

Two 4" by 4" fabric squares such as felt)
Polyester filling
Needle and strong thread
Clear tape or pins
1 teaspoon catnip

Instructions

1. Cut pieces of fabric into approximately 4" by 4" square.
2. Take two pieces of fabric and put them together with pins or clear tape, print-sides facing each other.
3. Sew three sides to make a pocket.
4. Turn pocket inside out so that the print side is showing.
5. Fill about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way full with polyester stuffing and about 1 teaspoon of catnip.
6. Fold top of pocket inside and sew shut.

From AnimalFriends

Carpet Scratching Pads

Carpet scraps turn into scratching posts for the kitties. Simply cut into 3- by- 8-inch pieces, use a hole punch to make a hole at the top and attach to the cage with a plastic shower hook. When a cat or kitten is adopted, we can send it home with them.



From the Charleston Animal Society



How to Make a Catnip Mouse

MATERIALS

Catnip
Scissors
1 child's sock
Felt scraps
Plastic from milk or detergent jug
Cotton yarn
Darning needle

MAKING THE MOUSE

1. Using scissors, cut off the toe section of the child's sock at the heel. Also cut two mouse ear shapes from the felt scraps and cut a teardrop shape from the plastic stock.
2. Insert the plastic teardrop into the sock (it serves to hold the mouse's shape) and fill the sock with the, catnip. Turn back the sock's edge and, with the cotton yarn and darning needle, lay a running stitch around the opening. Draw the yarn tight to close the opening.
3. Tie off the cotton yarn, leaving the extra for the tail. Sew on the felt ears and create embroidery floss whiskers.



Baby Sock Cat Toy

A flowering member of the mint family, catnip releases an aromatic oil that sends most cats into a blissful frenzy. This simple and inexpensive mouse-size toy, filled with catnip and sewn by hand, will provide your cat with hours of entertainment.



Tools and Materials

- Newborn-baby sock
- Dried catnip
- Needle and thread
- Yarn

Baby Sock Cat Toy How-To

Insert a paper cylinder into a newborn-baby sock, and use a spoon to fill the sock with dried catnip, breaking up any large pieces with your hands. Be sure to use dried catnip, as the fresh herb tends to mold, and bear in mind that catnip settles, so pack the toy tightly. With a needle and thread, blind-stitch along the top of the sock; to refill the sock, simply take apart the stitching, refill, and restitch. To dangle the toy from a doorknob or your hand, thread a piece of yarn through the back top of the sock so the yarn doubles itself, cut it to the desired length, and knot it in a few places to prevent tangling.

Catnip Fish Toy

This whimsical fish-shaped toy is sure to become one of your cat's favorite playthings.



Tools and Materials

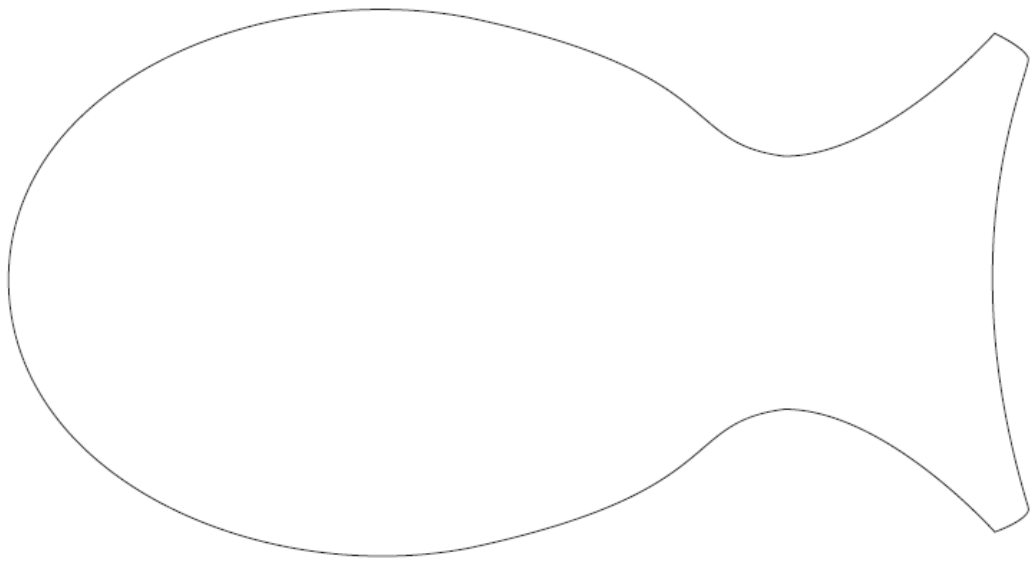
Fish template (next page)
Fabric
Pins
Pinking shears
Cotton batting or wool scraps
Piece of paper
Catnip
Needle and thread
Upholstery needle and thin sturdy twine, for hanging

Catnip Toy How-To

1. Trace template onto two layers of fabric. Cut out shapes.
2. Pin right sides together, leaving 1/4-inch seam allowance. Sew seam, and leave 1 1/2-inch opening for filling.
3. Trim seams with pinking shears.
4. Turn right side out. Press seams flat.
5. Stuff with cotton batting or wool scraps until firm. Shape a piece of paper into a funnel, and use it to add 1 to 2 tablespoons of dried catnip or to fill the whole toy with catnip.
6. Hand-stitch opening closed.
7. If desired, make fishing line: Thread an upholstery needle with 30 inches of thin sturdy twine, and sew through the seam of the fish's mouth. Tie knot to secure.

FISH

TEMPLATE



Catnip Rat Toy

Your cat will love this adorable, easy to make toy rat.



Tools and Materials

Catnip Rat Template (next page)

Felt

Stuffing

Rope

Catnip

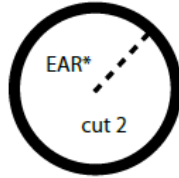
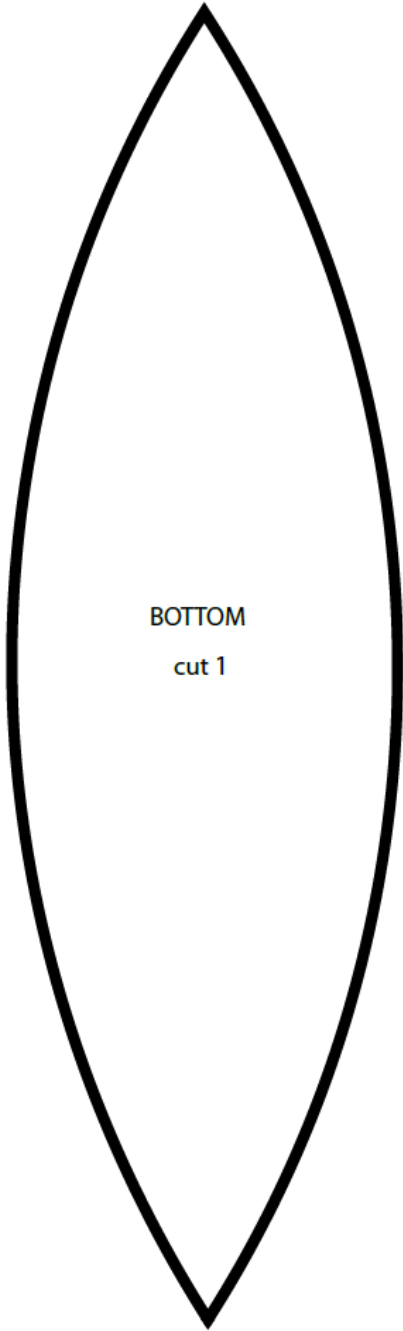
Scissors

Hot glue gun and hot glue sticks

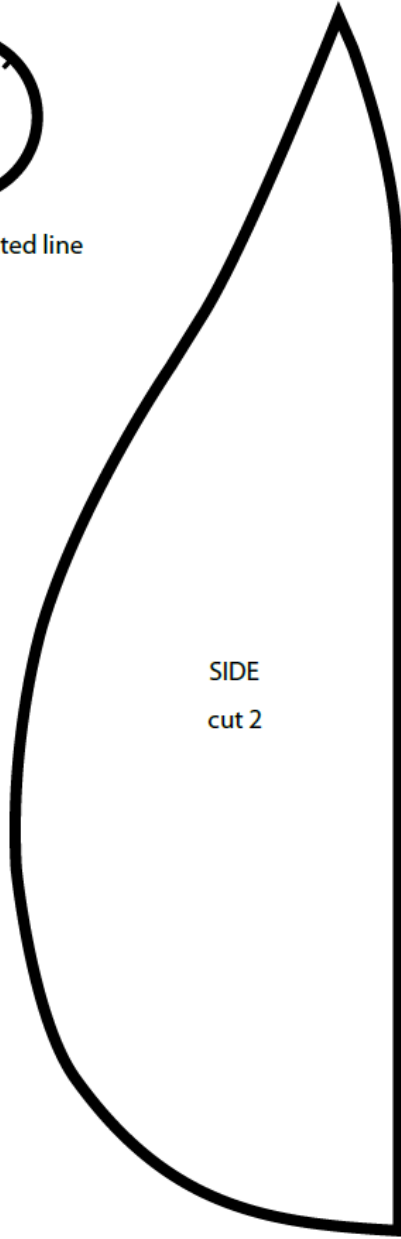
Extra felt (optional for eyes)

Catnip Rat How-To

1. Using the 7 1/2-inch template, cut out the bottom and side pieces of felt, using the circles for ears.
2. Glue the top edges of the side pieces to each other. Glue the bottom piece of felt to the bottom of the side pieces. Be sure to leave an opening in the back to insert stuffing.
3. For your stuffing, use cotton batting and catnip. Cut a piece of rope for the rat's tail and stuff in the back of the rat. Seal with glue, and glue on the ears. To add eyes, use a marker or felt.



*cut slit on dotted line



Door Cat Scratcher

Save your furniture from your cat's claws by making this simple cat scratcher from carpet remnants.



Tools and Materials

- Wooden plank (we used poplar) that is 1/2-inch thick, 6 inches wide, and 39 inches long
- Carpet remnant (ideally from the room in which you will use the cat scratcher), cut to the length and width of the wood plank
- Wood glue
- Weights (canned food works well)
- Measuring tape
- Pencil
- Drill with 2-inch hole saw attachment
- 3/4-inch-wide lattice
- Finish nails
- Paint (to match the door, if possible)
- Paintbrush
- Optional: heavy-duty Velcro, catnip

Door Cat Scratcher How-To

1. Glue remnant to board with wood glue. Place assembled board and remnant face down, and place a weight on it. Let dry.
2. Measure from the floor to the center of the doorknob. Subtract 1 inch. Measure this length up from the bottom of the board and mark with a pencil. Using a 2-inch hole saw drill attachment, drill through board and carpet, with the top of the hole meeting the line you have marked. Note: Make sure the hole is big enough for your doorknob; 2 inches works for most.
3. Add 3/4-inch-wide lattice strip trim to all four edges, using wood glue and finish nails. The lattice can be painted to match the door, if desired.
4. Optional: Attach the bottom of the cat scratcher to the bottom of the door with heavy-duty Velcro, to keep the scratcher from swinging. Cats can be enticed to use the board with a little catnip until they get into the habit.

Feather Cat Toy

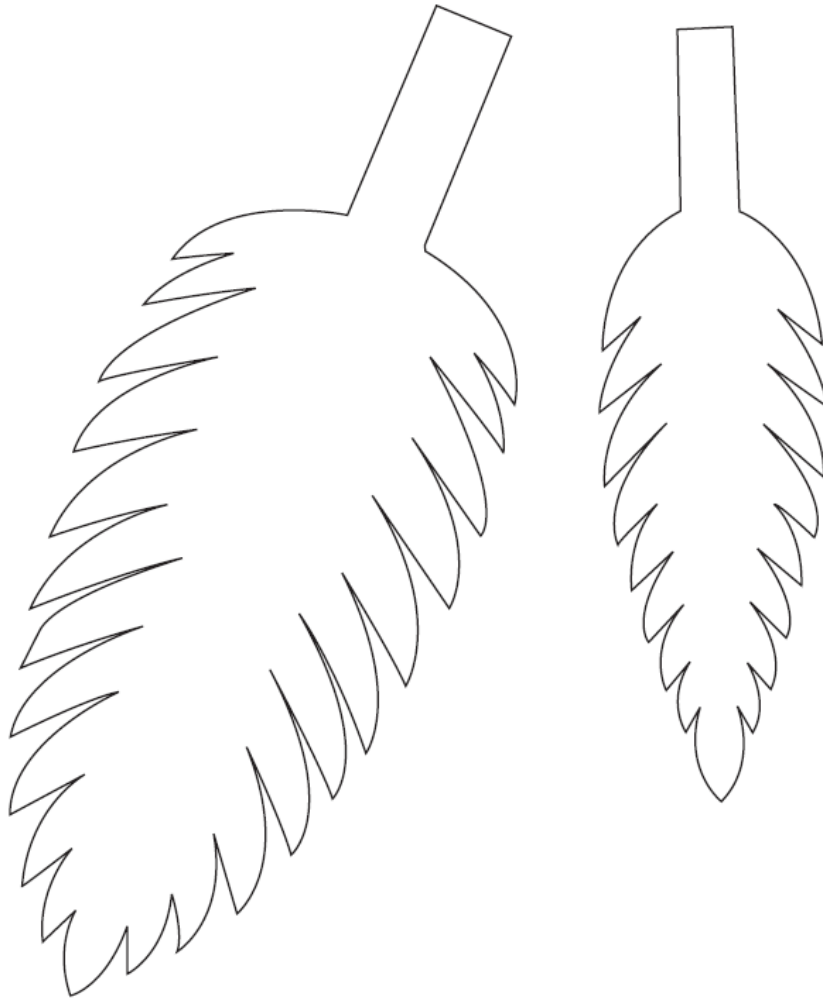
What cat wouldn't love this fun feather toy to play with? Made of wool felt, they're simple to create.



Cat Toys How-To

1. Using templates as guides, cut out one large and one small feather from two pieces of different colored medium-weight wool felt.
2. With a hot iron, press a crease down the center of each feather.
3. Add a jump ring to a jingle bell.
4. Slip end of a 1-yard length of satin cord through jump ring. At bell, tie stems of feathers to cord with a square knot. Knot both ends of cord to prevent fraying.

TEMPLATE



Menswear Mouse Toy

Treat a kitty to a game of cat and mouse with a few dapper toys. There's no mistaking these critters for the real thing -- they're constructed from brightly colored suiting and shirting fabric

Tools and Materials

- Assorted menswear fabrics (such as wool suiting, cotton shirting, corduroy, and cotton velvet)
- Iron
- Fusible webbing
- Sewing machine and sewing supplies
- Loop turner
- Fill
- Embroidery floss
- Embroidery needle
- Mouse Template (next page)



Step 1 Cut Out Body Pieces

Print the pattern pieces, and cut out. Using the pattern as a guide, cut out 1 bottom piece and 1 side piece from the same or different fabric. Flip pattern, and cut out another side piece. For a tail, cut a 1-by-4-inch strip on the bias. For ears, adhere 2 different fabrics together using iron and fusible webbing, following manufacturer's instructions. Using pattern, cut out ears from fused fabric.



Step 2 Make Tail and Body

Fold tail in half lengthwise, right sides facing; stitch with a 1/4-inch seam allowance, leaving ends open. Turn tail right side out using loop turner. Pin body pieces together, right sides facing; stitch with a 1/4-inch seam allowance, leaving a 1-inch opening at the back.



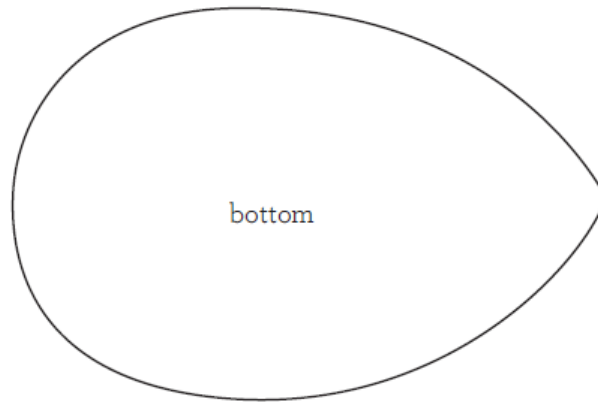
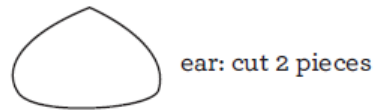
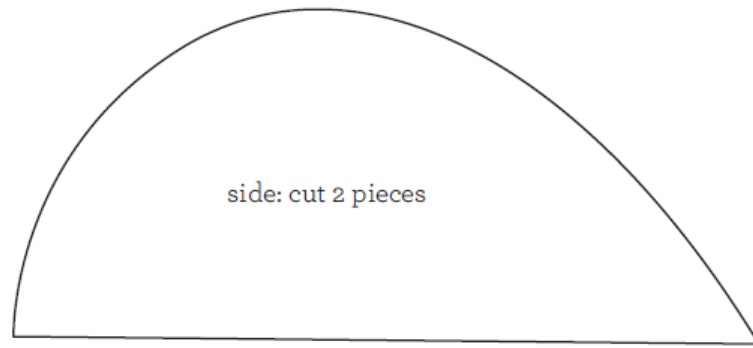
Step 3 Stuff and Assemble Mouse

Turn body right side out, and stuff with fill. Insert tail into opening; slip-stitch closed. Knot end of tail.



Step 4 Add Ears and Features

Fold ears in half, and attach to body with small hand stitches. Mark placement of eyes with pins, and then embroider eyes and nose using backstitches.



menswear mice

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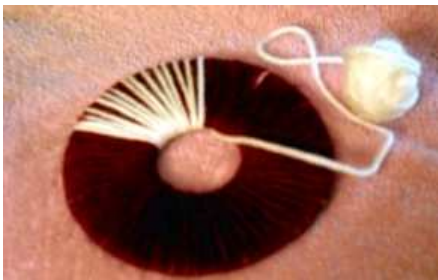
Make your own yarn ball



Start with two rounds of lightweight, flexible cardboard (or plastic), about 4 1/4" across, with a hole in the center about 1 1/2" across. (You can use any size round, but the proportions of round to hole should be approximately 1/3 the diameter of the round.) Wind a ball of synthetic wool yarn that just fits into the inner hole, then wind six more balls, each a little smaller than the previous ball. You can use different colored yarns for a multi-colored ball.



Holding the rings together, wind the yarn tightly around them; continue until all seven balls of yarn have been wound around the rings.



The color pattern of the ball is determined by the order in which you use the colors of yarn. You can experiment with different color combinations—and the cats don't care! A majority of light colored yarn in each ball is best for visual impact to the cat.



Push the blades of a pair of scissors between the two rings, and cut the yarn around the outer edges, keeping the blades of the scissors between the rings so that you cut the yarn evenly.



Or, use a craft knife to complete the cut, which can be easier than scissors. Make sure the cardboard rings stay in place.



Slip a length of yarn between the rings and tie it tightly around the cut yarn. Pull the yarn to the opposite side of the ball and tie tightly again, then repeat on the first side, tying 2-3 times to make the ball as secure as possible.



Pull off the card rings and fluff out the ball. Trim off any straggly ends on the yarn and cut the tie strings to match the length of the ball yarn.

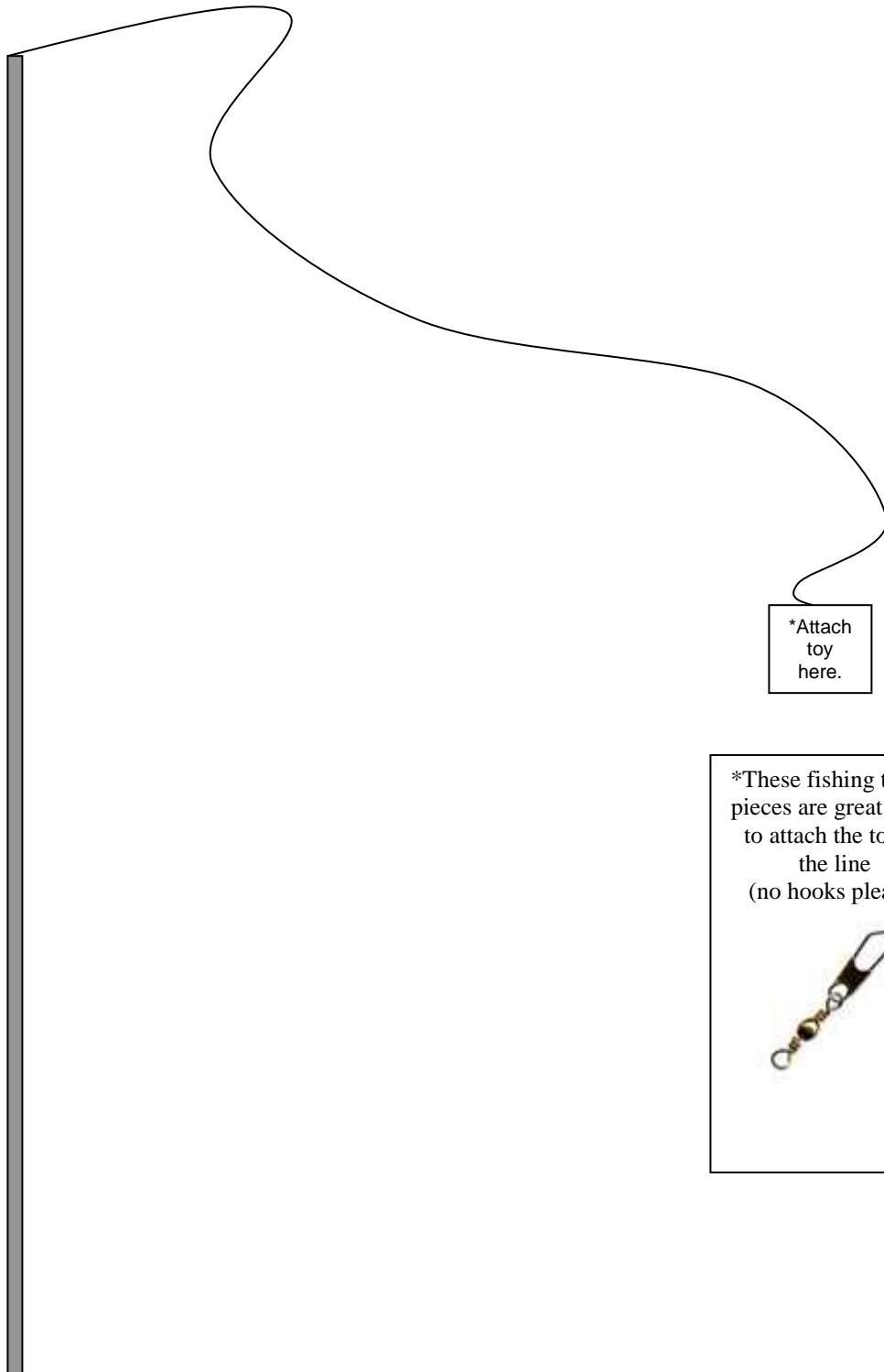


It is that easy! Just add cats for endless, and cruelty-free, fun.

Cat Rod Toy

You can attach any toy to the end

Use acrylic rods or wooden dowels. (¼ inch rods work best)
Do not use elastic bands, fishing line or wire as the string



*These fishing tackle pieces are great ways to attach the toy to the line (no hooks please)

