



# Heartland Humane

## shelter & care

### Braided Tug Toy

Photo Credit: April - Heartland Animal Care Staff

Animal Testers: Maya (dog), Mateo (Black & White Kitty), and Millie (Tortoiseshell Kitty)

The Braided Tug Toy is an easy to make enrichment toy to have around the house for all your pets - cats & dogs! You can make this toy out of old shirts and leggings, or scraps of fabric and fleece. Follow the basic instructions below. We will add tips on minor changes you can do to personalize your toy to your pet(s). Just remember to have fun and be creative!

#### Supplies Needed:

- Fabric - old shirt, leggings, or material of your choice
- Scissors

### Instructions & Tips



#### Step 1

- Lay out fabric you will be using for your project. \*We are using an old, long-sleeved shirt.
- Make sure you have your scissors handy.

Tips: If you are not using a shirt, you can skip ahead to step 5 or 6.



#### Step 2

- At the seam, cut off each sleeve of your shirt.
- Then cut up along the seam of the sleeve to open it up. \*Note the dotted lines on the picture!
- This will give you two panels like the panel labeled "A".



### Step 3

- Take the body of your shirt, and cut up the middle of the front side. \*Note the pink dotted line.
- Open up your shirt to see the back side and the two halves on the front side.
- Cut along the side seams and up the middle on the back side. \*Note the pink dotted lines.



### Step 4

- You should end up with 6 panels total - Two sleeve panels (**A**), two front panels (**B**), and two back panels (**C**).
- Separate into two groups - one of each panels.

### Step 5

- Roll each panel, giving you three strips.



### Step 6

- Tie the three strips together at the top.



### Tips:

If you are using regular fabric, cut your fabric panel into strips. The width of those strips are depended on the thickness of toy you'd like. Thicker strips are ideal for large dogs, while thinner strips are ideal for smaller dogs and cats.



## Step 7

- Once your three strips are tied together, you will use the basic braiding technique to make your braided tug toy.

Tips: You will want to make sure your braid is tight to add strength to your toy.

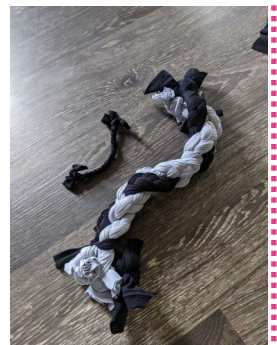


## Step 8

- Once you have reached the end of the strips, tie off to finish your toy.
- With one shirt, you will end up with two individual braided tug toys.

## Tips:

You can braid together three individual toys to make a stronger tug toy. This is ideal for larger dogs! Be sure to use a small strip of fabric to tie the ends. This will help secure the three toys together.





## Step 9

Enjoy playing with your pets!

