

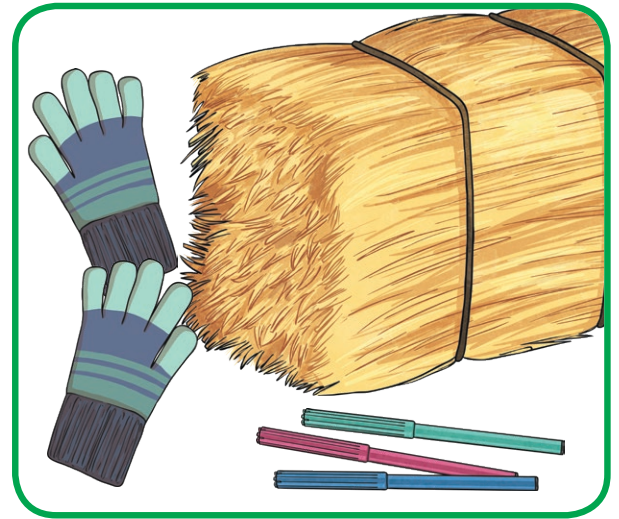
How to Make Your Own Scarecrow

Scarecrows make the perfect accompaniment to an allotment to discourage birds from eating the seeds and crops.

Design and make your own scarecrow following these directions.

You will need:

- Three bamboo canes or broom poles cut to size. These will need to be three different lengths: whatever the size of your shortest, the second should be double that size and the third double the size of the second.
- Straw
- String
- Hessian sack or one leg of an old pair of tights
- A set of old clothes, such as a shirt and jeans or dungarees
- An old hat
- Old gloves or rubber gloves
- Scissors
- Permanent coloured pens



Instructions

1. Form a cross with the two longest canes. The longest cane should be vertical and the other cane placed horizontally across it a third of the way down. The longest cane will be the body and the other cane will form the arms.
2. Tie these sturdily together using the string.
3. Fill the hessian sack or one leg of the tights with enough straw to form the scarecrow's head, shaping it into a sphere and tying it off with the string.
4. Use the pens to add facial features to your scarecrow.
5. Poke the top of the body cane/pole into the bottom of the head and attach the head firmly to the body using the string.
6. Position the shortest cane across the body halfway down and tie securely using the string.
7. Place the clothes over the scarecrow frame. Tie the ends of the arms and legs with string.

8. Pack the clothes with straw to fill out the body, arms and legs.
9. Pack straw into the gloves and tie each glove to an arm using the string.
10. Attach the hat to the head using the string and add some extra straw for hair.
11. Place your scarecrow in a suitable spot on your allotment where it will deter birds from eating your seeds or crops, pushing the lower part of the cane into the ground.

Hints and Tips

- Investigate different lengths of bamboo canes or broom handles to vary the height and width of your scarecrow.
- Experiment with other ways to decorate the scarecrow's head. Try using acrylic paints, large googly eyes or junk modelling materials. Think carefully about the waterproof properties of the materials you choose. Perhaps you could investigate this in science.
- Consider other ways to stop the birds and other creatures harming your crops; research which animals are likely to be troublesome and which harmless methods for discouraging them work best.
- Try designing a scarecrow to look like your favourite book character or design your own character and write a short story about your scarecrow.



Create your scarecrow design ideas here. Add labels to show the materials and colours you intend to use to make your scarecrow.

