



# Kids DIY PROJECTS

## **BUTLER COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY**

**Children and youth are some of the greatest supporters of animals and the work we do. Here are ways you can help!**

### **KNIT BLANKETS FOR CATS AWAITING ADOPTION**

All of the cats in our care receive a blanket or towel to make their cat cubby more comfortable. The cats especially love knit blankets. This is a great way to learn a new skill, or practice an old one, and benefit the cats on our campus. For cats we suggest at least 18"x20" (or bigger).

### **FLEECE BLANKETS FOR CATS AND DOGS AWAITING ADOPTION**

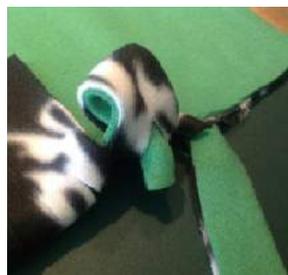
Can't knit? Try making one of these blankets. We always need blankets for our animals. If you are not into knitting, as mentioned above, you might consider an easier version of making blankets. We take blankets of all sizes, but for cats we suggest at least 18"x20" (or bigger) and for dogs, 40"x25" (or bigger).

*For a video and/or written tutorial on how to make these blankets please visit the following links:*

**VIDEO:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fQrkU9dN54s>

**WRITTEN INSTRUCTIONS:** <http://www.projectlinus.org/patterns/pdf/NoSewFB.pdf>

**Pictures of steps:**



### **RECYCLED CARDBOARD KITTY SCRATCHERS**

Cats naturally pick certain things to scratch. Scratching lets them stretch, work their nails and have a sense of belonging. We are looking for inexpensive ways to meet the needs of our cats and these homemade scratchers are a great option.



## Recycled Cardboard Kitty Scratchers:

### Supplies needed:

- Cardboard boxes (all sizes, all kinds, at least 5 medium size boxes)
- Twine, rope or yarn to hang
- Ruler
- Masking tape
- Nontoxic glue
- Box cutter
- Hole punch
- Scrap paper, felt, or fabric
- Decorative paper or fabric

### Instructions:

1. Cut several strips of the cardboard approximately 4"x10". Corrugated cardboard can be hard to cut. Have an adult help if needed and be careful to protect what you're cutting on.
2. Cover your work surface with newspaper to catch glue spills.
3. Lay the first strip flat on your newspaper. Take the next strip and cover with glue and lay it on top of the first one. Continue in this manner until you have enough layered to be about 4" high.
4. Put a weight on top of the pile to hold it while it dries and becomes sandwiched tightly together.

**VIDEO:** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yew4\\_Xn3k\\_E](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yew4_Xn3k_E)

### Pictures of steps:



## CATNIP TOYS

We try to provide a healthy environment for the cats awaiting adoption, which includes giving them plenty of toys. One of their favorites is catnip-filled socks. All you need are socks, cotton balls, dried catnip, and a needle and thread.

### Supplies Needed:

- Socks
- Needle and thread or hot glue gun
- Dried Catnip
- Cotton Balls or polyester filling

### Instructions:

1. Take a crew sock and fill it with cotton balls or polyester filling.
2. Add a wad of catnip in the center – a teaspoon or so should work.
3. Tie, sew or use a hot glue gun to seal.

### Pictures of steps:



## DOG ENRICHMENT TOYS

### Snuffle Mat Instructions

Supplies needed:

- A rubber anti-fatigue mat (with drainage holes)
- A lot of synthetic fleece (the amount will depend on the size of your mat)
- Fabric scissors

Instructions:

1. Cut your mat down if needed.
2. Cut out your strips. Remember, they don't have to be perfectly even or oversized.
3. Take one of your strips and tie a piece through each hole going down each row until you've done the whole mat.
4. Go back and tie pieces on the diagonal, to fill the gaps.

Find a step by step here:

<https://iheartdogs.com/diy-let-your-dog-dig-for-food-and-treats-in-this-entertaining-mat/>

<https://www.thehonestkitchen.com/blog/diy-make-your-dog-or-cat-a-snuffle-matt/>

Pictures of steps:

