

# How to make a Balancing Person.



## You will need:

- 6 Pop sticks
- A foam ball (about the size of a golf ball)
- Plasticine/modelling clay
- Yoghurt container or a block of wood
- Low melt hot glue gun
- Abrasive paper
- Scissors
- Pens or paint (to make face)



## Instructions:

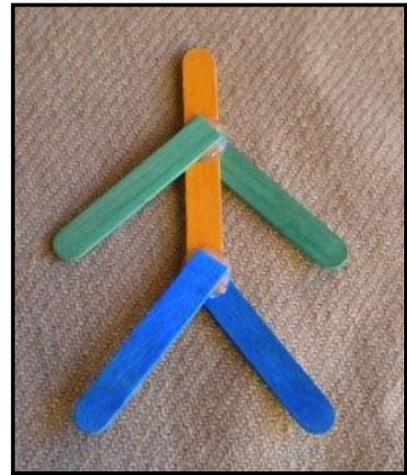
You will need 6 pop sticks to make this project. I used coloured pop sticks as they look more interesting but you could make it with plain pop sticks.



Take 3 pop sticks and put them aside for the moment. Then take the other 3 pop sticks and cut 2 of them evenly in half. The remaining pop stick needs approximately one inch cut off the end. (You can get rid of this inch piece as you do not need it.)



You should now have 4 small pieces of pop stick and one slightly larger piece. Using these pieces make a stick person assembling the pop sticks together with low melt hot glue. The slightly larger piece is the stick person's body and the 4 smaller pieces are the arms and legs. Make sure that the rounded end of the body goes at the head end and the flat part (where you cut the bit off) goes at the bottom. When gluing the legs on make sure they are spread a bit apart (like your legs are when you do a star jump) and that the arms are in the downward position and not straight across. (See picture for details.)



The feet of your stick person will need a little sanding to remove the flat/square end that is on them. To do this carefully hold your stick person at an angle and rub it back and forwards a few times on a piece of abrasive paper on one side then flip the stick person over and repeat on the other side to remove the square edge and replace with a point. See pictures for details.

(Sorry pictures are not the greatest.)



Flat/Square feet.



Sand edge.

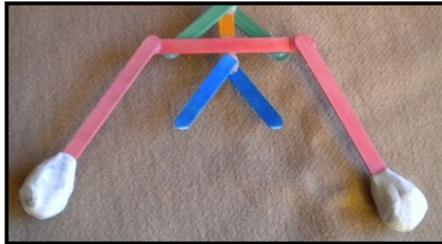
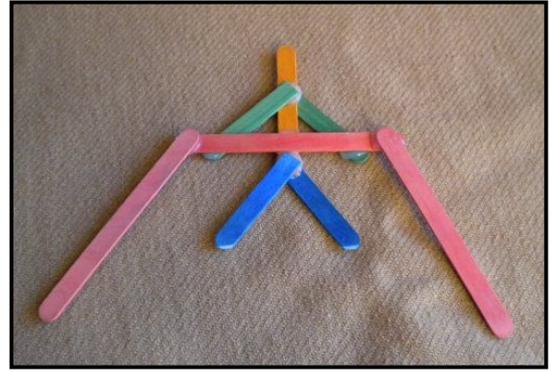


Sand at angle.



Pointy feet.

Now using the 3 pop sticks that you put to one side earlier make a wide “U” shape ‘balancing pole’ and glue this onto the person’s hands. Also put some glue where the balancing pole goes across the person’s body for extra strength. (The secret to making the balancing person work is to make sure the ends of the balancing pole are below the ends of the feet.)



Place a ball of plasticine/modelling clay onto each end of the balancing pole. Try and make sure that the plasticine balls are of even size. You will need to experiment with how much plasticine is in each ball. Too little and your person may not stand up properly. Too much and your person will not rock for very long.



Paint and draw a face on to the foam ball and make a hole in the bottom the correct size to fit onto a pop stick then place the head onto the person. Stand the person onto the wooden block or the upside down yoghurt container and gently push it so that it rocks.

