

MAKE YOUR OWN MANCALA BOARD GAME

Ages: 6-8; 9-11

Description:

Mancala has always been a school favorite among many of our Girls Inc. girls! It's a game of strategy and focus that anybody can play! With this activity, you will have the opportunity to create your very own Mancala board game with just a few household items.

Time:

60-90 minutes

Materials Needed:

- An Empty Egg Carton (12 dozen)
- Tape OR Staples OR Heavy-Duty Glue
- Scissors
- 24 Marbles, buttons, beans (anything that can serve as game pieces).

Optional

- Decorate and personalize your egg carton!
 - Materials needed if you want to decorate: Crayons, Markers, Stickers, Paint, Glitter, ect.

Instructions

With an adult's permission, gather all of your materials. Make sure you are in space where it's okay to make a little bit of a mess, ESPECIALLY if you are using paint or glitter to decorate!

In case you need to brush up on your Mancala skills, or if you are new to the game and need instructions click [here!](#)

Let's Begin! (Scroll down to see pictures for reference)

Step 1:

Take your scissors and carefully cut the top off of your egg carton. You want to cut it in a way that will create your Mancalas, or the "pockets" that hold the marbles you collect as you play the game.

Step 2:

Next, cut two pieces from the top of your carton from the middle section, these will serve as barriers, they will keep your marbles from spilling out of your Mancalas.

Step 3:

Now you are going to tape, glue, or staple together the sections from the top of the carton that you just cut. (Note that this project will take longer if you choose to use heavy duty glue to allow the glue time to dry).

Step 4:

Grab the bottom part of your egg carton, the part that holds the eggs. Glue or tape your newly formed Mancalas or pockets to both sides of that bottom portion.

Step 5:

Time to play and enjoy your new game!

Modified Decorations if Decorating

Step 1:

Same as original instructions.

Step 2:

Same as original instructions.

Step 3:

Decorate your pieces, it will be much easier to do before you tape, glue or staple your sections together. Allow time for any paint, glue, or glitter to dry.

Step 4:

Tape, glue, or staple together the sections from the top of the carton that you just cut.

Step 5:

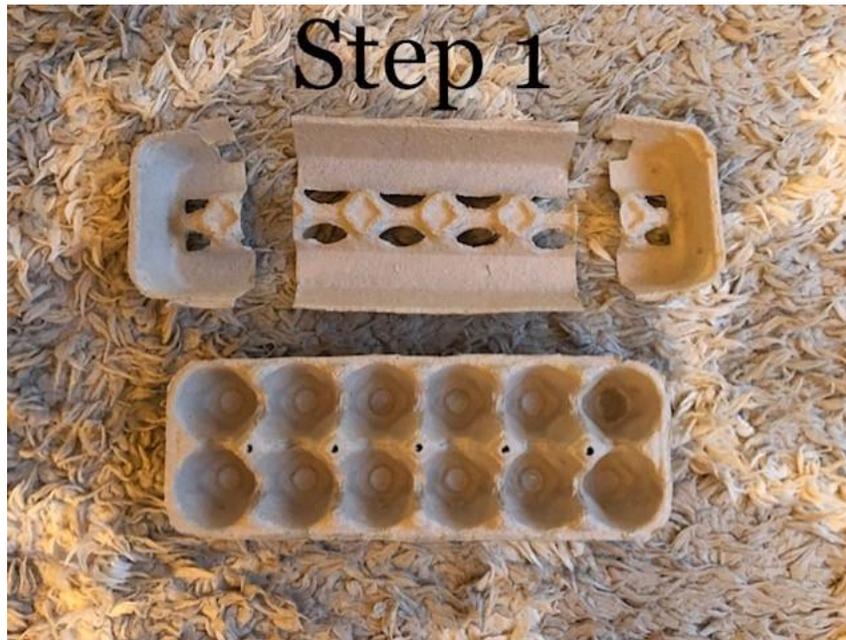
Grab the bottom part of your egg carton, the part that holds the eggs. Glue or tape your newly formed Mancalas or pockets to both sides of that bottom portion.

Step 6:

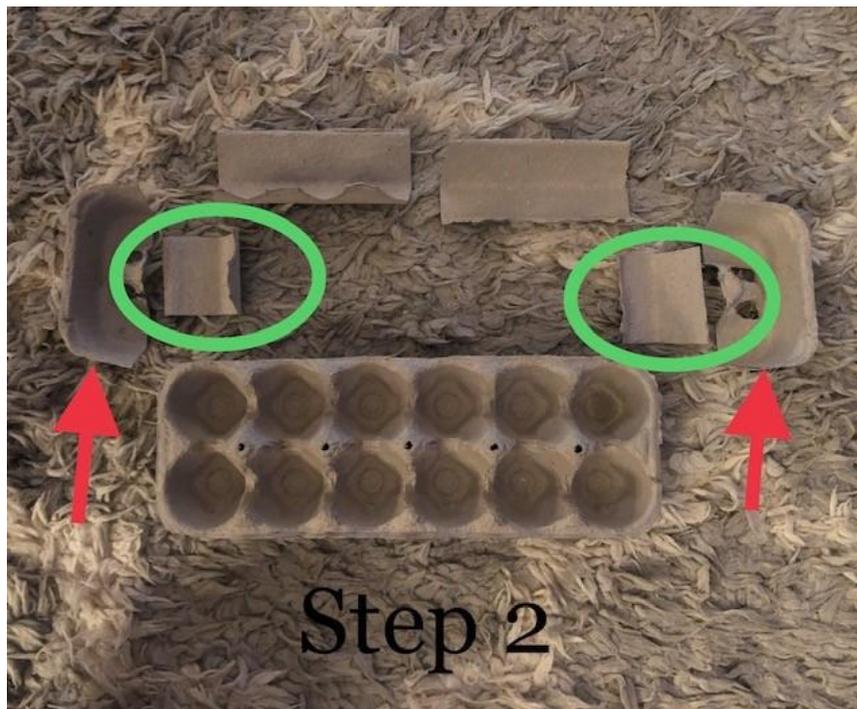
Time to play and enjoy your new game!

Photos for Step by Step Instruction:

1. Take your scissors and carefully cut the top off of your egg carton



2. If your egg carton has holes in the top like mine, simply cut two extra strips off of the top of the carton to prevent your pieces from falling through. Those two extra strips are pictured inside the green circles, you will want to glue those to the bottom of your Mancala edges, or the pieces with the red arrows pointed at them.



3. (optional) You may choose to decorate your game board, remember though that this step is not necessary! It is however a great way to showcase your creativity.



3. Now you are going to tape, glue, or staple together the sections from the top of the carton that you just cut. (Note that this project will take longer if you choose to use heavy duty glue to allow the glue time to dry).





4. After attaching both Mancala ends, you have your finished product! You are now ready to play your game! We chose to use Jellybeans as our game pieces, but you can use anything that you can find at home. Just make sure you have four of each in each compartment on the board.

For an additional resource, and to view the inspiration for this activity click [here!](#)

ACTIVITY RECAP

Discovery Questions:

- What did you enjoy about this activity? What did it feel like to create your own game board?
- Why is it important to practice creativity through activities like this one? Does this activity make you want to try any other DIY projects?
- If you completed this activity again, would you do anything different next time? Would you recommend this project to your friends?
- With a parent/guardian's permission, share with us a photo of your creative, DIY, Mancala board on our Instagram page with the tag @girlsincindy.