



Module 12 : Balloon Modelling Techniques: The Basics

- What the basic techniques of balloon modelling are
- How to twist balloons
- How to correctly pump and tie balloons
- Includes video tutorials

By the end of this module, you will know:

- What the basic techniques of balloon modelling are
- How to twist balloons
- How to correctly pump and tie balloons
- Includes video tutorials

12.1: Introduction

Before we begin teaching you how to make balloon models it is important that you

understand the basics.

These points may seem fairly obvious but it is important that you understand them before you begin.

How to pump up a balloon

- To pump up your balloon get your balloon pump and place the end of the balloon over the tapered nozzle.
- Make sure you hold the balloon on the pump, then start to inflate the balloon
- Pump the balloon until there is about 4 inches of balloon without any air in.
- Take the pump out of the balloon and tie a knot in the end.
- You are now ready to begin creating a model.

Pumping up a balloon - 01:08

12.2: Tying a Knot

- Holding the air in the balloon remove the pump
- Stretch the latex so you have a long piece of balloon
- Curve the excess around your fingers
- Place your thumb through the hole that you have created
- Pull back through underneath the balloon that is stretching across your fingers
- Pull tight and you now have a secure knot.

Watch this video tutorial to see how to securely tie a balloon - 01:14

12.3: Twisting Balloons

There are two types of twist that you can use when creating your balloon models; a pinch twist and a lock twist.

Pinch Twist

A pinch twist is exactly as it sounds.

- Using a finger and thumb pinch down on the area that you wish to section off / create a twist.
- Then, simply twist the balloon.
- Once you have done this you will need to hold the balloon on both sides of the twist with one hand to stop it from coming undone or even popping.

Lock Twist

- Make two sections by creating two separate balloon twists as described above.
- Grab hold of the end of the balloon and fold it over so the two sections run parallel to each other.
- Then grab the two sections together
- At the twist squeeze the two sections together
- Twist your hands in opposite directions and let go
- You have created a lock twist
- Watch the video below to see how these two twists are done

Watch this video tutorial to see how to twist balloons - 01:24

Go and Practice

estimated time: 20 minutes

Using the instructional videos above as a reference practice pumping, tying and twisting balloons. Spend at least 20 minutes on these activities or until they feel more natural and you don't have to think too hard to do them.

Once completed you are ready to start the next module

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