

# MAKER SKILLS LIBRARY

## Maker Skill: Pipe Cleaner Basics

### Spiral

Use a spiral as decoration or attach other materials to it to create fun movement in your projects.

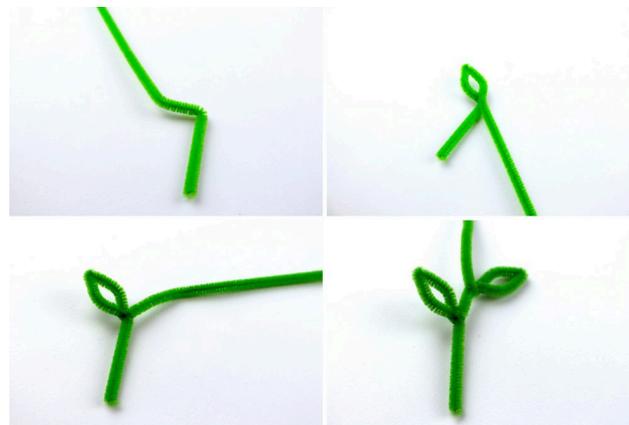
1. Find something long and round, like a pencil, marker, or skewer. The width of this object will determine how wide your spiral is.
2. Use one finger, or a piece of tape, to hold one end of the pipe cleaner onto the pencil.
3. Using the other hand, wrap the pipe cleaner around the pencil until you reach the end of the pipe cleaner.
4. Gently pull out the pencil (remove tape first if you used it) to reveal a spiral.



### Loop

Use loops of different sizes to create beautiful and useful shapes in your pipe cleaner.

1. Determine the size of the loop you want to create, and its location on the pipe cleaner.
2. Bend the pipe cleaner where the loop will start, and cross it over itself where the loop will end. Bend the loop into the shape you want (in this example, it's shaped like a leaf).
3. Twist the two ends of the pipe cleaner together where they are crossed.
4. Add more loops if desired.



### Connecting Pipe Cleaners

Use this method to connect two pipe cleaners together or to connect one pipe cleaner in a loop.

1. Cross the two pipe cleaner ends you want to connect to make an X.
2. Twist the pipe cleaners around each other until you reach the ends.
3. Fold the twisted end down to one side. Tug at opposite ends gently to make sure the connection is secure.

