

MAKER SKILLS LIBRARY

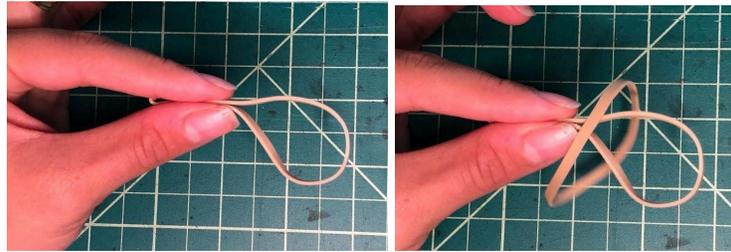
Maker Skill: Rubber Band Connections

There are many ways to connect rubber bands together and fasten them to other materials. Rubber bands can be useful, flexible connectors and can be helpful to make very tight or stretchy connections.

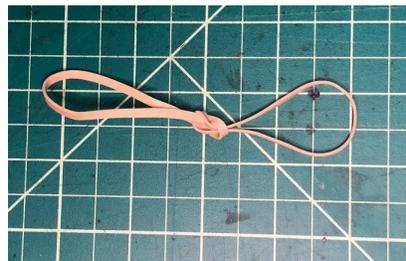
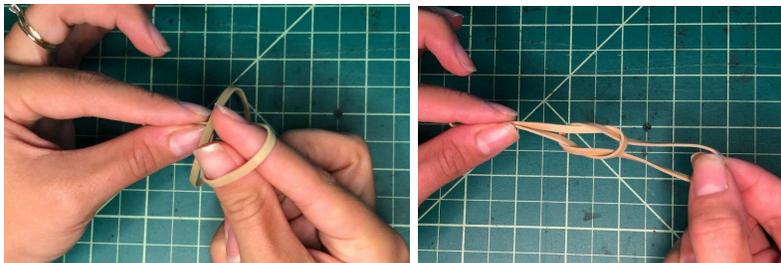
Chain Connection

Use this method to connect rubber bands together.

1. Hold one rubber band by pinching together one side of it closed, creating a teardrop shape.
2. Place another rubber band over the teardrop so that it rests near your fingers at the pointy part of the teardrop shape.



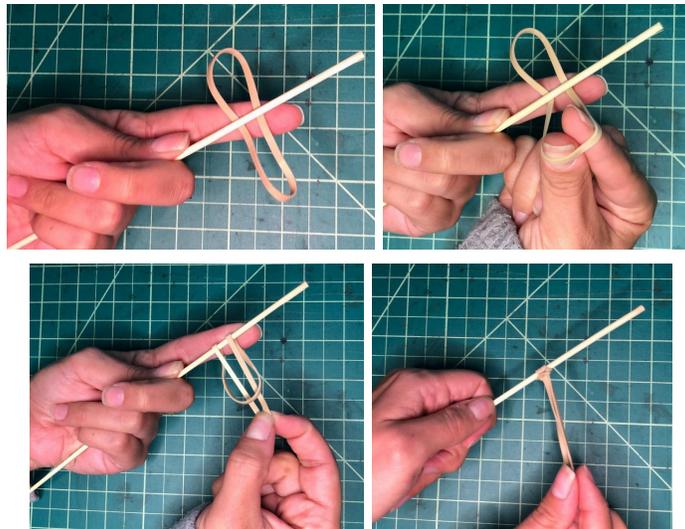
3. With your other hand, stick your fingers through the teardrop, grab the second rubber band, and pull away from your pinching hand.



Post Connection

Use this method to connect a rubber band to a thin, solid object like a wooden dowel or craft stick.

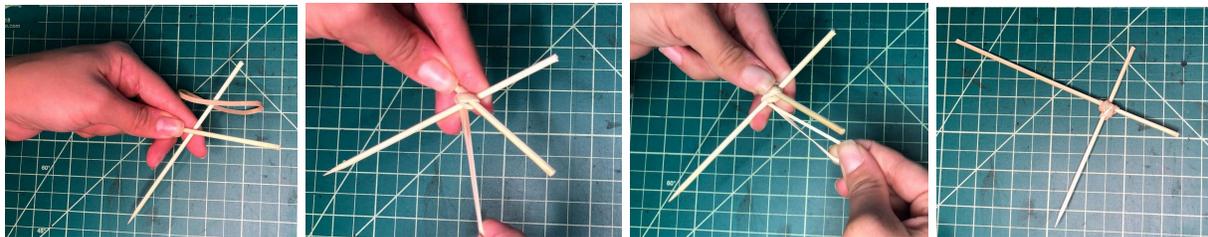
1. Hold the dowel in one hand. Use the pointer finger of that same hand to press the middle of the rubber band to the back of the object, so that a loop of rubber band appears on either side of the dowel.
2. Stick the thumb and pointer finger of your other hand through one of the rubber band loops, from the back of the rubber band going towards your body.
3. Grab the other rubber band loop, bring it back through the first loop, and pull away from the dowel. This should create a tight loop around the dowel and a loose loop.
4. If needed, move the parts of the rubber band that are looped around the dowel closer together, and/or add a piece of tape to secure them in place.



X Connection

Use this method to use a rubber band to connect two dowels or other stick-shaped objects together.

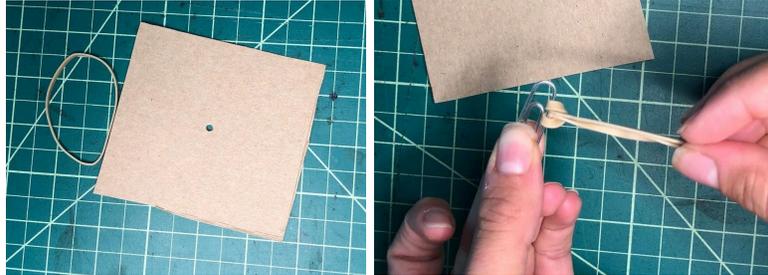
1. Cross the dowels in an X shape.
2. Hold one end of the rubber band and loop the other end over one side of the X.
3. Pulling tightly, wrap the rubber band around the middle of the X shape as many times and in as many directions as you can.
4. When you can't wrap any more, loop the end of the rubber band over the other side of the X.



Knot Connection

Use this method to attach a rubber band so it is sticking out from a flat material such as chipboard.

1. Create a slit or a hole in the chipboard where the rubber band will stick out.
2. Use the post connection method described above but instead of a dowel, attach one end of the rubber band to a paper clip or other small object.



3. Thread the other (loose) end of the rubber band through the slit or hole. Pull on the loose end until the paper clip is flat against the backside of the chipboard.
4. Secure the paper clip onto the back of the chip board with a piece of tape.

